

VIA MARSEILLES.]

The London and China Telegraph.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON ARRIVAL OF THE P. & O. MESSEGERIES AND PACIFIC MAILS FROM CHINA JAPAN STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. &c

IN CONNECTION WITH THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS." A WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS.

Vol. XIX.—No. 737.]

LONDON, MONDAY, OCT. 15, 1877.

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Latest Arrivals.

PORTS	OUTWARD.		HOMeward.
	From London.	Arrived out.	Received Oct. 15.
JAPAN —Yokohama	July 6	Aug. 19	Aug. 30*
Yedo	—	—	" 27*
Osaka and Higo	—	—	" 21
Isokodani	—	—	" 21
Nagasaki	—	—	" 21
CHINA —Peking	—	—	" 14
Tien-tsin	—	—	" 18
Chefoo	—	—	" 18
New-chwang	—	—	" 21
Hankow	—	—	" 21
Kiu-king	—	—	" 21
Chin-kiang	—	—	" 26
Shanghai	" 6	" 15	" 26
Singpo	—	—	" 26
Puehrow	—	—	" 26
Yamusa	—	—	" 29
Amoy	—	—	" 30
Sweatow	—	—	" 30
Hong Kong	" 20	" 26	Sept. 1
Canton	—	—	Aug. 30
Macao	—	—	" 31
PHILIPPINES —	—	—	—
Manila	" 6	" 10	" 26
COCHIN-CHINA —	—	—	—
Saigon	" 27	" 28	Sept. 6
SIAM —Bangkok	—	—	Aug. 20
BORNEO —	—	—	—
Labuan	—	—	" 28
Sarawak	—	—	" 27
JAVA —Batavia	—	—	Sept. 6
Samarang	—	—	Aug. 31
Sourabaya	—	—	" 27
MALACCA STRAITS —	—	—	—
Singapore	Aug. 3	Sept. 1	Sept. 6
Penang	" 3	Aug. 30	" 8
CEYLON —	—	—	—
Galle	" 24	Sept. 15	" 15
Colombo	—	—	" 13

* Via San Francisco, received Oct. 6.

THE MAILS, &c.

The French mail, with the advices dated as above from China and the Straits Settlements, was delivered, via Marseilles, this morning, its due date. There are no later Japan advices than those which reached London, per Occidental and Oriental Company's steamer *Oceanic*, via San Francisco, on the 6th inst. The heavy portion of last inward mail arrived at Southampton on the 12th inst. The next inward (P. and O.) mail, from Yokohama 24th Aug., Shanghai 2nd, Hong Kong 8th Singapore 15th Sept., left Alexandria for Brindisi this morning, and will probably reach London on its due date, the 22nd inst.

The Singapore-Batavia telegraph cable has been repaired, and all the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company's lines are now in working order. The Great Northern Company's line is interrupted.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Irassaddy*, arrived Oct. 12.—From Yokohama: Mr. and Mrs. Joushian, Mr. Spieren, Mr. Koumetsuki. From Shanghai: Messrs. Hipplesey, Findlay, Deacon, Schouard. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Lewis, Magnus, Carricks, Veriszen. From Saigon: Mr. Viensch. From Manila: Senor Eusebio Cardinal. From Batavia: Messrs. Desperoux, Kaiser, Commy, Van den Bosch, Corbilon Bouffard, Redier, Mr. and Mrs. Zellinghaus, Mr. and Mrs. Kestoren, Mr. and Mrs. De Prarie, Mrs. Metman, Mrs. Brangust. From Singapore: Messrs. Colson, Marples, Wells, Boyle, Lyon, Fenaw, Vicenti, Reis, Mr. and Mrs. Macdonald.

To San Francisco per Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company's steamer *Oceanic*, arrived Sept. 16.—From Hong Kong: Mr. Marcus Samuels, Mr. E. Oakley. From Yokohama: Dr. Willis, Mr. J. W. Hadley, Mrs. Lieut. Com. Goodrich and infant. General J. B. Van Buren (U. S. Consul), Mrs. Armstrong, Capt. Lord, Mr. H. B. Armstrong, Mr. Lucas, Mrs. Rice, Mr. O. Nagura, and Mr. Markham. From Shanghai: Mr. J. Drum, Mr. J. T. Rodewald, Mr. A. E. Thompson, Mr. Frank Reid.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer *Cathay*, from Southampton, Oct. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. G. H. Burnett, Miss E. B. Chapman. To Ceylon: Capt. Bayley, Mrs. Ravenscroft and two children, Miss King, Mr. W. Evans, Capt. N. B. Smith.

Per P. and O. steamer *Pera*, from Brindisi, Oct. 15.—To Galle: Mrs. Chowan, Miss Mackenzie, Mr. Hedger, Mr. T. Reinhardt.

Per P. and O. steamer *Pelia*, from Southampton, Oct. 18.—To Yokohama: Mr. Levy. To Shanghai: Mr. E. E. Burnett. To Hong Kong: Mr. G. Oyarzabal. To

Colonbo: Mr. Hughes, Mr. Feeney, Mr. W. Jaffray, Mr. Berwick.
Per P. and O. steamer *Ceylon*, from Venice, Oct. 26.—To Hong Kong: Rev. L. Tasso and Rev. L. Redhaer. To Ceylon: Mr. M. R. Deas.
Per P. and O. steamer *Trancore*, from Venice, Nov. 3.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Macleod.
Per P. and O. steamer *Malacca*, from Southampton, Nov. 1.—To Yokohama: Messrs. Nakamigawa, Nabeshima, Ohata, Mockinoki. To Ceylon: Mr. T. A. Hill, Mr. E. P. Atkinson.
Per P. and O. steamer *Pera*, from Venice, Nov. 9.—To Singapore: Mr. A. K. Murray, Mr. T. Worthington.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Diemich*, from Marseilles, Oct. 21.—To Shanghai: Mr. Beyfuss. To Hong Kong: Mr. C. F. Harton, Mr. A. Wemyss, Messrs. E. A. and R. Alford, Mr. Ibert. To Batavia: Mr. Mirandaie and family, Mr. and Mrs. Eschmzier and six children, Mr. and Mrs. Willis and child, Mrs. Van Steyn, Mrs. Schelleun, Miss Maarscholk, Mr. Keyser, Mrs. Smeding, Mr. and Mrs. W. Willie. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Koenig, Major and Mrs. McNair, Miss de Jager, Mr. and Mrs. Mackie, Miss Van Steyn, Miss Bernard, Miss Innot, Mr. W. H. Read, Mr. McLovery, Mr. Barnard, Mr. W. B. Freer, To Colombo: Mr. and Mrs. Felix Brown, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. Mackwood and family, Messrs. J. B. Phour, C. Bulle, H. W. Rille, W. Walker, H. Wilton, and Pole Carew.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Irassaddy*, from Marseilles, Nov. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. H. Smith, Major Brodigan. To Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. Van Brinck and daughter, Mr. G. L. Omien, Mr. and Mrs. Lantzins, Mr. G. L. Quoin. To Singapore: Mr. Windsor, Mr. Brazier and family. To Colombo: Mr. J. E. Bell, Mr. Newman, Mrs. Strachan, and Captains Tynnam and Smith.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Tigre*, from Marseilles, Nov. 18.—To Yokohama: Mr. Iwakura and Mr. Oki. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. J. Powrie, Mr. J. Baugh Allen. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Allen. To Batavia: Mr. Van Amest and family, Mr. Van Schreder, Mrs. de Stuers. To Singapore: Mrs. Donaldson, Mr. and Mrs. Neave, Mr. J. G. Davidson, Mr. H. Bodyk. To Ceylon: Mr. D. Crabbe, General Mundy, Capt. Hayes, Mr. R. Wickham, Miss Carr, Miss Mundy.

Per steamer *Berika*, from London, Oct. 5.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and two Misses Moore, Mr. W. F. Watson, Mrs. C. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. H. Mather, and Miss L. Mather. To Yokohama: Capt. W. and Mrs. Cotter, Captain F. Crighton, Mr. C. J. Gardner.

Per steamer *Nestor* (Holt's line), from Liverpool, Oct. 9.—To Hong Kong: Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Thomson, Rev. Mr. Rutherford, Miss Taylor. To Shanghai: Mr. Suire, Mr. F. H. Holt, Capt. Middleton.

Per steamer *Minerva*, to sail from Gravesend, Oct. 16.—For Singapore: Mr. John Stronach, Mr. William Grant, Mr. John Skene.

Per steamer *Gordon Castle*, from London, Oct. 14, for Shanghai: Mrs. Black and child, Mrs. Preston and child.

Summary of News from the Far East.

CHINA.

PEKING.

An important notification has been issued by Mr. Hugh Fraser, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires, by which five of the places of call on the Yangtze, stipulated for in the Chefoo Convention, are formally declared open. These are Tatung and Nganking, in the province of Anhwei; Wusueh, Luchikow, and Shasi, in Hukwang. The opening of Hukow at the mouth of the Poyang Lake, in Kiangsi, is deferred for the present, on the ground that it requires special regulations.

The conditions which the Chefoo Agreement provides for trade at these places are the following:—

Steamers shall be allowed to touch for the purpose of landing or shipping passengers or goods; but in all instances by means of native boats only, and subject to the regulations in force affecting native trade.

Produce accompanied by a half-duty certificate may be shipped at such points by the steamers, but may not be landed by them for sale. Imports accompanied by a transit duty certificate, and exports similarly certificated, will be severally passed free of the native duties on exhibition of such certificates. Imports or exports not protected by transit certificates will be liable to the duties in force for native trade.

TIENTSIN.

Fears were still entertained regarding the crops. The *Daily News* correspondent writes on the 17th August:—

We are, however, not yet in possession of sufficient data to speak with certainty in regard to the present or the prospective condition of the crops, and the probable necessities of the people over any considerable extent of territory; but so far as we have any information, it affords anything but a pleasant outlook. In

all this region, the millet, large and small, is not likely to yield over, if up to half a crop. Up to within six weeks ago, there had been no rain in the region of Tai-yuen-fu, Shansi, and no millet or maize could be planted. Since then there may have been abundant rain, but I have no information. I have heard that the Tsung-li Yamen has become alarmed at the prospect, and that measures for relief are in progress. But I know of no facts bearing on this rumour.

SHANGHAI.

The present mail brings advices from this port to the 26th August; no later mail from London had been received.

Some sharp and rather acrimonious correspondence—not, however, altogether inexcusable under the circumstances—appeared in the local papers on its becoming known definitely that the Woosung Railway was to be closed. The step appears to be a subject of regret among many upon almost personal grounds, as the convenience of the railway was appreciated by foreigners and natives alike, and its being now closed is felt not only as a piece of needless retrogression, but as an immediate and practical annoyance.

An important memorial with reference to the opium question from H.E. Kuo, the first Chinese Envoy here, has appeared in the *Peking Gazette*, and is translated in the *North China Daily News*. It was written in April last, and makes suggestions for the "gradual suppression of opium smoking." One of the most noteworthy features is the conspicuous absence of those arguments connected with the physiological results of opium-smoking, which are the ground work for the denunciations indulged in by the philanthropists at home. The question is treated almost exclusively from the point of view of the agricultural theory of the Chinese Government, and as a question of expenditure. The admitted fact that opium was prohibited in China prior to A.D. 1735—i.e. about half a century before the first importations worth speaking of arrived from India, is also valuable as showing that the cultivation and use of opium date a long way back in China. Speaking of the cultivation of the poppy in Sze-Chuen and Yunnan, Kuo states that "the authorities at the provincial capital, in the departments, and in the subordinate districts, have introduced additional levies of an illegal character, and collect an unauthorised duty upon the opium produced, whereby a revenue is obtained, itself larger by several times than the amount established by law for the regular taxation. Both officials and people having in this wise a source of profit open to them, the practice has spread far and wide this long time past, in every direction." The scheme suggested by Kuo contemplates the suppression of opium smoking within twenty years; and a decree based upon the memorial was issued to the Provincial Governments, but not published, on or about the 1st June, directing the Governors-General and Governors to "see what can be done" in the matter. From the tone of the decree, it is not thought very probable that much is expected of the provinces.

A judgment of importance as bearing upon the laws of principal and agent in China has been delivered at the Mixed Court, in the case of Gilman and Co. v. Ting Ping-chai. The defendant had tried to repudiate his interest in a consignment of silk which resulted in a heavy loss, alleging that it was sold to, and not consigned on his account through, the plaintiffs. The Magistrate upholds the claim of the plaintiffs, and condemns the untruthfulness and prevarication of the defendant, in unhesitating terms. Both he and his assessor, however, remark that strong confirmation of the claim would have been furnished, and much time and trouble saved, if the defendant's signature had been required, attesting the consignment. The neglect is blamed, and the adoption of so essentially desirable a precaution in future in the Shanghai trade recommended.

The cool weather has set in, accompanied by heavy rains, which appear to have had the effect of destroying the locusts which had made their appearance in the neighbourhood. The rains are described as having been heavier than within the recollection of some of the oldest residents in the Settlement. Some fears were entertained that they might injure the cotton and rice crops.

We take the following items from the *North China Herald*:—We hear the China Navigation Company's steamer *Tamsin* is to join the *Soochow* on the Ningpo line. This hardly looks like the reported agreement between the two companies.

The Taoutai's organ, the *Sinpro*, makes a great grievance of the ill-treatment received by Chinese gold diggers in Australia. The writer seems to be ignorant of the fact that they are not privileged by any treaty to go to Australia at all; and that even if they were, the residents there have as good a right to prevent their digging for gold as the Chinese authorities have to prevent foreigners from opening mines in China. The *Sinpro* also boasts of the performance of some runners (or coolies) attached to the Chinese Legation, who went to Epsom and were received by Royalty, dukes and duchesses, on a footing of perfect equality! As a matter of fact, without any treaty, the Chinese are allowed to open mines and obtain land in Australia; while on the other side, foreigners, notwithstanding their treaties, are not even allowed to purchase land to make roads in China. The assertion as to the exalta-

tion of Chinese runners, and self-abasement of English royalty, is of course too absurd for serious contradiction; though the endeavour to show how small these barbarian Princes are, by the light of their condescension to Chinese coolies, is genuinely Mandarin. But even without this the difference in the position of the two Legations is sufficiently annoying.

Mr. G. F. Seward, American minister, has arrived from Tientsin.

The prolonged dullness of the Silk market has forced upon the Municipal Council the reflection that their revenue may very possibly suffer from the smallness of the export; and a judicious curtailment of outlay is proposed, until the way is clearer. A tender for cleaning out the Yang-king-pang has been accepted, and work will be begun as soon as the Health Officer allows.

NINGPO.

The *North China Herald* correspondent writes:—

The only news here is of an accident to the yacht *Heron*, which the lowdah succeeded in some incomprehensible way in running on Dumb Island, about four miles outside Chiu-hai. The *Heron* had been very kindly lent by Colonel Cooke to take a party of ladies and children to Pootoo, whose trip was rather summarily stopped by the misadventure. The yacht was at once beached; and the passengers landed and passed some four or five hours on the rocks before they were taken off in a passing pilot boat. The fishing boats were willing to take them, but were also anxious to squeeze, when the chance arrival of the pilot boat put an end to the difficulty. They all got back safely to Ningpo.

FOOCHOW.

The *Foochow Herald* has the following:—

We hear that something like a general fast, humiliation, and prayer has been ordered by the native authorities, to commence to-day, and to continue for three days, during which period the people are supposed to adhere to a strict vegetarian diet.

The steamship *Fu Yeh*, belonging to the C. M. S. N. Company, arrived on the 22nd ult., with a cargo of rice from Chinkiang. She was brought in by Captain Wilson (chief officer of the *Hanwang*) her regular commander—Captain Croad—having we regret to learn, sustained rather serious injury during the late gale.

We hear of an unusual amount of sickness in the city and suburbs; but there is no foundation, we are glad to add, for the report that Asiatic cholera has appeared. The prevailing malady is common to the season, and is mainly induced, we believe, by a too free indulgence in unripe fruit, putrid fish, and other delicacies to which the native populace are notoriously partial.

The exact height of the Kushan Monastery has long been a moot point. We have heard it variously stated at anything between 1,000 and 2,000 feet. A friend, thoroughly competent to arrive at the measurement to a nicety, has furnished us with the following table which may be of interest to our readers. From the base of the mountain to the first rest house 340 feet; second rest house 525 feet; third rest house 800 feet; fourth rest house 1,190 feet; fifth rest house 1,425 feet; monastery 1,662 feet. The height of the Peak was not taken by our informant, but it is, we believe, about 2,500 feet.

The semi-religious *fête* at the Canton Temple commenced on the 29th ult. As compared with former displays the decorations and trophies show a great falling off, and we notice scarcely any of the bronzes, porcelain, and curios that attracted so much attention last year. We believe that the authorities have, in view of the prevailing distress, forbidden any extravagant outlay in connection with this and similar celebrations; but if such were not the case we could quite comprehend the reluctance of the Canton Guild to make an unnecessary flourish of its wealth. It would be highly imprudent to cut a figure in these days of forced contributions.

FORMOSA.

The *Peking Gazette* of the 3rd August contains an amusing memorial from the Governor of Fokien, regarding his recent trip to Formosa. Ting is penetrated with admiration for an officer named Wu Tsan-cheng, who did not get sea-sick when he himself did, but was able to continue walking happily about the deck of the steamer; and declares that "in vigour both of mind and body he (Wu) excels the memorialist in a tenfold degree." But this is only one of Wu's achievements. Hardly had he arrived in Formosa, when he boldly proceeded to a place "which has hitherto been untrodden by the foot of man since the creation of the world"—which means presumably that no Chinese official has yet had the pluck to visit that portion of aboriginal territory. In contrast to Wu's merits, we have the misdeed of a brigade-general, who has failed to weed out the inefficient men from his contingent. It is not very difficult to conceive what is the state of the case here. The General has been going on the Chinese principle of keeping ten soldiers when he was paid for 100, and filling up the ranks with coolies when called out for inspection. Ting denounces the ninety as incompetent. The General has contented himself with reporting that he has dismissed twenty-five. Whereupon Ting gives a strong hint that he means to have a much larger proportion of the force kept up to an efficient standard.

HONG KONG.

Dates by this mail extend to the 1st September; the P. and O. mail from London, July 20, arrived out on the 25th August.

Piracies appear again likely to become a trouble to the Colony. A report had gained currency that one on a considerable scale had been committed within a short distance of the island. The amount of specie said to have been captured was set down at between \$25,000 and \$30,000. The police had been informed of the matter, and were making energetic inquiries. The notorious Chum Afook, recently discharged at the Supreme Court on a charge of returning from deportation, has made another public appearance. He was brought up at the police-court on a charge of larceny, and committed for trial. The circumstance is taken hold of by the *Daily Press* which alludes to the trouble likely to arise from the too humanitarian principles of H.E. the Governor. That paper says:—

The abolition of flogging is sure to give encouragement to criminals, and will inevitably lead to the increase of crime. The report that the new Governor of Hong Kong is a "merciful man" has already spread far and wide in Kwangtung, and the idle, the worthless, and the desperate characters of that mis-governed province will flock here in shoals to carry on their predatory operations, knowing that at the worst only incarceration in gaol and hard labour will overtake them, softened by the hope that the "merciful man" will take care that they endure no severe punishments, and are well fed. The infatuation of Mr. Hennessy—for we can call his strange leniency towards undeserving scoundrels by no other term—is simply marvellous. We understand that on the discharge of Wong Afook, the criminal recently charged with returning from deportation, his Excellency gave instructions that employment should be offered to this man as a coolie in the police station. Wong Afook disdainfully refused the opportunity to earn an honest livelihood; he preferred to continue his Ishmaelish career, and lost no time in renewing his designs upon other people's goods. It is to be regretted that his Excellency should have tried such an experiment on so notorious a reprobate. The motive that prompted the act was very good, no doubt; but the act itself was most injudicious, especially on the part of the head of the Government. It would appear to the natives very like offering a premium to crime.

The new system which Mr. Hennessy desired to introduce into the gaol, that, namely, of appointing Chinese instead of European turnkeys, seems likely to be little more successful than his treatment of deported criminals. It has been found that the old hands among the Chinese police who had been recommended to become turnkeys, in spite of the large increase in their pay, generally refused to stay. It was said that the prisoners they had been the means of convicting have threatened their lives, and hence their unwillingness to remain as turnkeys.

At the annual meeting of the shareholders and subscribers to the City Hall, the Chairman said it was a matter of considerable anxiety how they could meet the expenditure of the year they had entered upon. He added that Dr. Denny's having gone to Singapore they had every expectation, through his connection with the museum there, and his general interest in the museum in Hong Kong, of getting specimens that would make the museum much more interesting. In connection with the museum, he also mentioned the loss which had been sustained by the death of Mr. Martin, of Shanghai, as he took a great interest in the museum, and was always most ready to assist it.

From the above-named paper we take the following:—

It is notified in the *Gazette* that during the absence of the Postmaster-General on his tour of inspection in China and Japan Mr. S. Barff, Assistant Postmaster-General, will be in charge of the General Post-office in this colony. Mr. J. S. Rodrigues, first clerk in the Stamp Office, is appointed Acting Collector of Stamp Revenue.

It is with regret we hear of an accident to the Eastern and Australian Mail Company's steamer *Normanby*, due here on the 29th August. From the telegrams received by Messrs. Gibb, Livingston and Co., the agents here, it appears the *Normanby* struck on some unknown shoal or rock in the vicinity of Port Bowen. She was beached on No. 2 Island of the Percy Group, some fifty miles north of the place where the accident occurred. The agents here have received no intelligence of any transfer of mails having been made.

During the late outbreak of cholera on board the Chinese customs cruiser *Fai Hoo*, one of the crew was, we understand (says the *Foochow Herald*), saved, while in a dying state, by the novel experiment of placing him between the heated boilers of that vessel. This extemporised Turkish bath completely cured the patient.

The following has been forwarded to us by the Harbour-Master:—Captain de Souza, of the Portuguese barque *Alva*, reports that on the 29th ultimo, when between Pedra Branca and the Pratas Shoal, he met part of a ship having the deck burnt and the stem and stern gone. The vessel appeared to be built of wood with iron framing.

A correspondent writes:—

You will see from the papers by the present mail that H.E. the Governor is still pursuing his novel course as to

the government of the Chinese—with results as successful as anyone acquainted with the nature of native society here could easily have foreseen—in other words, with signal failure in all directions. He it, however, not very easily discouraged, and seems as much bent as ever upon doing something which shall show his great superiority to the bulk of people who think that the Chinese are not to be managed by being made pets of—especially when they have committed offences. The Home Government ought to set its face against Governors who wish to make a great *coup* in Hong Kong. The place is too small to do any thing wonderful, and we want governors who will not be above following to some extent in the wake of their predecessors, and taking the advice of experienced people on the spot—neither of which Mr. Hennessy seems disposed to do. I hear, indeed, that he intends publishing a large number of details sent in with the reports which appeared in the *Governor's Gazette* during Sir Arthur Kennedy's time, but which were not made public then—probably (or at least presumably) for sufficient reason. Such a step is surely altogether unprecedented, and argues very badly for Mr. Pope Hennessy's powers of administration—if, indeed, any new argument is required after the display he has made in other colonies. Hong Kong is the last place to which a man with his antecedents should have been sent.

CANTON.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

CANTON, AUGUST 31, 1877.

You will doubtless remember that in two or three of my former communications I informed you of the sad distress which the inhabitants of certain districts of this province had been called upon to experience in consequence of the unprecedented over-flowings of the Canton river. I called your attention at the same time to the very praiseworthy attempts which were made on the part of the Viceroy and the local gentry to alleviate, as much as possible, these sufferings. Now it is my agreeable duty to state that, during the last few days, the Viceroy has received Imperial commands from Peking to the effect that rice coming to Canton from the various rice-producing districts of the empire shall be admitted into the port in question free of all imposts. His Excellency has been further instructed by his Imperial Majesty to open the Government granaries of the city and to retail, at a very cheap price to the almost famished people, the many measures of rice which they contain. The gentry, too, of the suffering districts have received Royal commands through the Viceroy to superintend the distribution of food in their respective localities in order that all who are in need may be supplied with the common necessities of life according to their actual wants and requirements.

Nor have the local rice merchants and provision dealers been overlooked by the Emperor. On the contrary, they have been very urgently bidden by him not on any account to charge "famine prices" for the articles of diet which they have for sale. Let us hope that this exercise of parental care and authority on the part of the Sovereign of this great Empire may be attended with the most satisfactory results. On the 21st inst. this city was visited by a whirlwind which, though of short duration, effected much destruction. It occurred at noon, and was attended with a sound which was in itself startling. The river, which, ere the whirlwind came, was as smooth as a duck pond, was suddenly lashed into a fury, and, consequently, several boats were upset and inmates drowned. In the western and southern suburbs, too, some houses were rased to the ground by this madly rushing wind. Surely it is almost needless to observe that the casualties resulting from the fall of these houses were, in some instances, very serious. During the past three weeks the Cantonese, and indeed Chinese in general, have been much occupied in celebrating with all due solemnity the annual festival of All Souls. It consists in offering each night paper clothes, paper money, and lighted tapers to the names of all persons who during the past year have died.

Unwept, unhonoured, and unsung.

Between the hours of seven and eight each evening of this festival the streets of the city were actually in a blaze, owing to the heaps—pyramids I ought to say—of paper clothes and paper ingots which were prepared and set on fire by various citizens with the view of appeasing, as I have already intimated, the manes of hungry and restless ghosts, or, in other words, the souls or beggars and destitute persons who had died in the streets. It is by the action of fire that the articles in question are supposed to be conveyed to the wretched and forlorn spirits for whom they are intended. Thousands of tapers, too, were burned on the occasion; and as they were arranged in order, on the sides of the streets, like so many "foot-lamps," they contributed much to the brilliancy of the scene. Nor was the celebration of this great annual festival confined to the streets. On the contrary, the river on which the city stands became a centre of attraction, inasmuch as its waters were navigated nightly, throughout the *fiête*, by several large boats, elaborately carved and gilded, and illuminated on the occasion by hundreds of lanterns. From these barges offerings similar to those which we have already described (were having been first of all set on fire) cast into the river for the special service of the souls of all persons who

during the past twelve months have perished by drowning. In each of these boats were assembled priests of the sect of Tau, clad in richly embroidered vestments, whose duty it was to chant, to the sound of cymbals and flutes, masses for the repose of the souls of these departed ones. As the season for cricket-fighting has now commenced, all Chinese who find pleasure in the pursuit of such a singular pastime can scarcely give their attention to any other subject. On Saturday last I visited a cricket-pit, which is situated in the northern suburb of the city, and found it thronged by Tartars, Chinese, and Ki-Ha or Bannermen. They had many crickets, which they were matching one against the other, for both small and large stakes. It is astonishing with what ferocity these insects fight, withdrawing, as is not unfrequently the case, from the contest with the loss either of their wings or legs. During our short stay at this place of amusement several dollars exchanged hands. All English and American travellers who visit this city are invariably impressed, and very justly so, with the idea that the Chinese are a peace-loving and a law-abiding people. No policemen are to be seen in the streets, and the crowds of citizens who throng these thoroughfares from morning until evening are most orderly in their conduct. Notwithstanding, however, these indisputable facts, quarrels do sometimes arise, which lead to very unsatisfactory results. Thus, on Saturday last, shortly after meridian, seven men, carvers-in-ivory by trade, entered a large tea saloon, which is situated in the Luung-chuang-kin-street, and called for refreshments. They were served with "creature comforts" in accordance with their commands. On the bill being presented for payment, finding that they were charged for a tea-cup which one of them had broken, they not only refused to pay for that article, but also for the repast of which they had just partaken. The result was that a fight took place between the waiters of the establishment and these unprincipled guests, which ended in favour of the former. These scoundrels, however, on retiring to their homes assembled not less than forty persons, who were their fellow craftsmen, and repaired with them to the scene of their recent disaster. On reaching the tea-saloon they made a fierce attack upon its inmates, and, being armed, seriously wounded three of them. As you may easily imagine, the whole neighbourhood was suddenly seized with terror; shops were quickly closed, and streets were barricaded. Nor was confidence restored until these peace-breakers had been dispersed by sixty soldiers, who arrived at a most opportune moment. Several of these aggressors have been arrested, and are now undergoing a very searching examination before one of the leading tribunals of the city. On the same day another quarrel occurred, which for the space of two hours greatly disturbed the peace and good order of one of the principal quarters of the city. An apprentice, who had been sent by his master to a bookseller's shop in the street called Sheung-moon-tai to buy a book, tendered in payment of his purchase a counterfeit dollar. The shopkeeper and his assistants on detecting this attempt on the part of the youth to pass base coin seized him, tarred his face, and then cast him into the streets as an object of scorn. On returning home he explained the cause of his blackened face, whereupon his master, in a moment of great anger, resolved to be avenged. Accordingly, having enlisted into his service three powerful men, he hastened to the bookseller's shop, and there caused a disturbance, which was only quelled by the timely interposition of a company of soldiers. As a vast number of "roughs" had congregated, and as they openly manifested a strong sympathy with the master of the youth who had endeavoured to pass the bad dollar, all the neighbouring shop-keepers, fearing lest an attack should be made upon their respective establishments, wisely closed them until order had been restored. Let me now close my remarks on this subject by stating that it is a very old custom on the part of Chinese, to tar or blacken the faces of all persons when caught in the very act of circulating base coin. King-qua, the last of the old Hong merchants, died here a few days ago, at the age of eighty-eight years.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

—o— MANILA.

The following items are from the *Straits Times* :—

During the fortnight several rice laden vessels arrived at Manila. White rice was quoted at \$4 per cavan; rice from Ilocos, \$3 per cavan and current Pangasinan \$2.7 to 2.6 per ditto.

The *Comercio* states that the province of Albay was then passing through a crisis such as had been unknown for several years. Owing to a continuous drought during the last two years almost all the hemp plants have perished there, traders who formerly collected 1,500 piculs weekly obtaining now with difficulty 100 piculs. This, together with the low price of that article and there being no other produce in the province for meeting the wants of the natives, is the principal cause of the backward condition of the towns there. Nothing definite has been published as to the official trial of 150 tons of coals from the Sugud mines in that province.

Of 10,000 quintals of leaf tobacco offered for sale by auction at Manila only 1,000 quintals were sold, which were bought by

Messrs. Inchausti and Co. of that city at the reserved price, \$68 per quintal. Of 15,718 mils of cigars 7,275 mils were sold for \$95,420.90, 1,000 mils Nuevo Cortado obtaining the highest premiums—\$2.20 to 2.60 per mil.

During the first fifteen days of August 523 dollars in gold and 1,523 dollars in silver Spanish coin were imported into the Philippines. During the same period there were exported from there \$270,000 in bar gold, \$1,240 in unwrought gold, and \$3,400 in gold dust.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

Subjoined is a translation of the Notification which has been issued by the Siamese Government prohibiting the export of rice from the 24th September last until the 13th September, 1878 :—

THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO THE FOREIGN CONSULS IN SIAM.

By command of his Majesty, and in concert with the Senabodi, I have the honour to inform you that this year, owing to a great scarcity of rains throughout the entire kingdom of Siam, the people have not been able as yet to cultivate their fields. In some of the lowland districts the cultivators have only succeeded in some instances in obtaining one share, and in some two shares out of ten, and others who have not been favoured by any rain have not been successful at all. Even the cultivators who have succeeded with one or two shares out of ten do not know yet whether there will be rain enough to bring the young plants to maturity. In the meantime, prices for paddy as well as rice have risen daily, and his Majesty, together with the Senabodi, anticipate serious difficulties should the rice in the country not prove sufficient for them, being almost the sole article of sustenance for all the people. The present high-ruling rice prices are likely to induce many holders of paddy to avail themselves of such advantages and to sell their stocks; and the inhabitants of the Kingdom and many of the poor may suffer for want of food, thus causing great anxiety to the Government. In consideration of such circumstances, I have received instructions to notify all the representatives of the Foreign Powers and to request them to issue, in accordance with the article 22nd of the Treaty, a notification to all persons under their jurisdiction, forbidding them the exportation of rice on and after the 2nd day of the 10th Waning Moon year of the Cow (24th September, 1877), till the 2nd day of the 10th Waning Moon year of the Tiger (13th September, 1878). However, should the weather hereafter prove in every respect favourable for the cultivation of the fields, a further proclamation will be issued to the effect that the exportation of rice can take place as before. Will you kindly send me a specification of the amount of rice in the hands of all merchants and traders under your jurisdiction, on the day before this proclamation comes into force, i.e., within thirty days from this date; thus enabling the authorities to know the exact stock of rice on hand that day. This stock they will be allowed to export at any time, but not more than is mentioned in the specification rendered.

You will be good enough to inform all people under your jurisdiction of the contents of this my despatch.

We note with regret the death in Bangkok, on the 24th Aug., of an old Singapore resident, Mr. Samuel Bateman, H.S.M.'s Commissioner of Customs. The *Siam Advertiser* describes the funeral as follows :—(On the 25th (August) at four p.m. a large company, including almost the entire European and American community, his Grace the ex-Regent, H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. the P'm Nai Waiyawat, and other prominent members of this distinguished family, followed to their last resting place the remains of S. Bateman, Esq., Commauder of H.S.M.'s Customs.

The flags of the ships in harbour, the flag of the American Consulate, and of the Harbour Master were half-masted all day. The boat containing the remains was towed by a small steamer, and a long line of boats made a solemn and imposing procession. As the procession passed H.B.M.'s Consulate General, the flag of the Consulate was half-masted.

Mr. Knox, H.B.M.'s Consul General, and Mr. Newman, Mr. Gould, Mr. French, and the other Consular officers, were at the cemetery awaiting the arrival of the remains. The Rev. William Dean, D.D., of the American Baptist Chinese Mission, officiated. The funeral service was appropriate and impressive. When the body was deposited in the grave, beautiful flowers from numerous large trays were thrown upon the coffin. These were demonstrations of the esteem of numerous appreciative survivors, who wished to show they had lost a friend.

Mr. Bateman has been a resident of Bangkok since 1862. He first came here as Deputy Commissioner of Police. Not long after he became Private Secretary to H.E. the then Prime Minister, now his Grace the ex-Regent. Subsequently there was superadded to this position, the honour of being Chief Commissioner of H.S.M.'s Customs. Both these positions the late and much lamented Mr. Bateman held till the day of his decease.

In regard to the rice export the same paper says :—

Rumours had been in circulation that the Siamese Government contemplated prohibiting for a season, at least, the further exportation of rice, but we were not disposed to place any faith in these rumours. In this it seems we have been too sanguine. On the 23rd we saw the notification of H.E. the Foreign Minister, for the information of the community in Bangkok.

We have met people from Nakaun Nayok, who say that the growing grain in that province bids fair to yield a good crop.

Advices from Supan are equally favourable. Advices from Ayuthia are unfavourable. The Ayuthia grain, however, is of an inferior quality to the Na-muang grain. Advices from Petchaburee are unfavourable. The grain from this region is Na-suan.

Those with whom we have conversed say that there is more than rice enough in the country for home consumption. Fears of destitution are groundless. The effect of the prohibition, if executed, will only be a great good to the poorer classes of the country. The price of rice will recede, and the poor may hope to be able to purchase paddy from 8 to 16 ticals per coyan. If this is to be the result, the temporary prohibition will be a great boon. The Government, for the time, will be losers of a certain amount of revenue, that which results from the export of rice 4 ticals per coyan, and from the export of paddy 2 ticals per coyan.

The 21st of next month will be the anniversary of the birthday of H.M. the present King of Siam. H.M. was born Oct. 21st, 1853. Preparations are being made for the celebration of the day by the natives and the foreigners residing in Siam. This year is the 1,239th of the Siamese civil era, and has had an intercalary month, that is, there were two 8th Lunations of thirty days each. The annual fireworks and the temple visitation therefore will occur thirty days later than in the non-intercalary years. The annual fireworks this year will occur for the first time on the evenings of the 22nd, 23rd and 24th of October. The second time the 20th, 21st, and 22nd of November. Between the 24th of October and the 20th of November, H.M. will visit the temples under the Royal patronage, and the common people will visit their favourite temples and make presents of clothing and other useful articles to the priests in whom they are specially interested.

The semi-annual oath of allegiance will be administered to the Government employes on the 15th of October this year.

Those in Siamese Government employ will welcome its administration, as salaried servants are usually paid off soon after this solemn oath has been administered. This oath is administered twice a year, the second time it is administered a little before the true Siamese New Year or Songkran, and occurs usually in the month of March, the 3rd of the Waxing of the 5th Siamese lunation.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

SINGAPORE.

The present French mail brings advices from this port to the 8th September; no later mail from London had been received. We take the following items of intelligence from the *Straits Times* :—

The community will be glad to learn that Mr. W. Adamson has consented to occupy the seat in the Legislative Council vacant through the absence on leave of the Hon. W. H. Read.

The following is the report of revenue and expenditure of Perak during the first half of the present year.

Residency, Kuala Kwangas, 13th Aug., 1877.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward a Return of the Revenue and Expenditure of the State of Perak taken from the books of the Treasury at Kota for the six months ending 30th June, 1877.

One column of the return shows the expenditure appropriated for the six months in the Estimates prepared by Mr. Maxwell for 1877.

The Revenue collected in the Perak river, according to the Estimates, ought to have amounted to \$42,850; the amount received was \$32,525, showing a deficiency of \$10,325.

The revenue of Larut was estimated for the six months at \$94,785; the amount collected under the estimated heads of account was \$96,567, showing an excess of \$1,772.

The sum of \$9,287, was received from the Kurau and Krian, and Selama districts. This is principally made up of the farmers' monthly payments,—the small sum of \$561 only has been received from Krian and Selama during the period.

A loan of 5,000, was received from the Straits Government, and an advance was also made of 5,000 worth of copper coin.

A sum of \$11,700, which I found in Mr. Marples's hands as Sikh deposits, has also been paid into the public account. This, with some small irregular items, makes the total amount of receipts for the whole State during the first six months of 1877, \$163,205.

The total expenditure for the same period reached the sum of \$155,869.

The expenditure for the period, as estimated by Mr. Maxwell, was \$143,743, so that the sum of \$12,126 in excess of his calculations was spent.

I have enclosed some explanatory remarks on the items of expenditure which are in excess of the estimates.

The chief liabilities incurred and unpaid during the six months, and which were at the close of the period a charge against the balances were the loans of silver and copper money from the Straits Government and the Sikh deposits above referred to.—I have, &c., HUGH LOW, Resident.

The meeting of the Tanjong Pagar Dock Company has been held, Mr. Adamson in the chair.

The Chairman stated that, owing to unavoidable circumstances, the director's report and balance-sheet had been only distributed six days before the meeting, and that it was competent for any shareholder to ask for a postponement; but no objection being raised, he in a few words referred to the late

disastrous fire and to the course adopted by the board to re-build the premises, and took that opportunity to thank all those who had rendered assistance to the company during that trying time.

The Chairman proposed, seconded by Hon. J. R. MacArthur :—"That the directors' report and balance sheet be taken as read and adopted."—Carried unanimously.

The Chairman proposed, seconded by I. Henderson Esq. :—"That an interim dividend of 5 per cent. for the half-year be declared."—Carried unanimously.

The Chairman proposed, seconded by J. Brussel, Esq. :—"That a vote of thanks be recorded to the manager, assistant manager, and the employes of the company for their services generally, and for their exertions during and subsequent to the late fire, as also to Mr. E. Jackson, the engineer for the new dock."—Carried unanimously.

Proposed by Dr. Little, seconded by T. C. Bogaardt, Esq. :—"That the employes of the company should receive a substantial acknowledgment of their extra service during the fire and subsequently, and that the amount to be given and the persons to receive the same should be left to the discretion of the directors."—Carried unanimously.

Proposed by E. J. Wells, Esq., seconded by M. Little, Esq. :—"That the thanks of the shareholders be accorded to the chairman and the directors for their valuable services rendered to the company, and specially for the services rendered in connection with the fire."—Carried unanimously.

There being no other business to be transacted, the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

The following notifications are from the *Gazette* :—

An order of the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council giving effect to the Straits "Extradition Ordinance," No. 4 of 1877, is published.

Mr. E. Karl, Protector of Chinese, Penang, is appointed J.P. for Penang.

Mr. Edward H. Bell, Chief Inspector of Police, S.S., acts as Registering Officer, Penang, C.D.O., vice Capt. Walshe, resigned from 1st September.

Captain F. C. Annealey, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Province Wellesley, acts as Registering Officer C.D.O. in the Province.

Mr. Edward H. Bell, Chief Inspector of Police, S.S., acts as Assistant Superintendent in Penang, vice Mr. A. P. Talbot.

On the 31st August Mr. Hermens, Acting Consul-General for the Netherlands, notified Government that the blockade of Palo Way, Atchin, was raised on the 4th August.

The note circulation of the Banks in August was as follows :—

Oriental Bank	\$219,145
Chartered Bank	698,175
Mercantile Bank	492,915
Ditto Penang	385,940

The Acting Auditor-General gives the balances due to the Colony from various Native States on the 30th June last as follows, five per cent. interest being charged :—

Perak	\$226,303 71
Ditto Inquiry	32,560 45
Salangore	45,892 94
Sunglio Ujong	29,399 46

334,156 56

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

GOLDSMID.—On the 6th Oct., at 16, Queen's-gate-terrace, S.W., the wife of Bartle G. Goldsmid, of a son.

HUNT.—On the 21st Aug., at Shanghai, the wife of John H. Hunt, of a daughter.

LATOUR.—On the 30th Aug., at Tientsin, the wife of P. Loup Latour, of a son.

MANSOY.—On the 27th Aug., at Amoy the wife of Dr. Patrick Mansoy, of a son.

STONE.—On the 5th Oct., at 18, Marlborough-road, Kensington, the wife of S. G. Stone, of a daughter.

WALLER.—On the 5th Oct., at Buckhurst Hill, the wife of Duncan Waller, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BORCHARDT.—DE BORISL.—On the 32nd Aug., at the Imperial German Consulate, and afterwards at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, Shanghai, by the Very Reverend Dean Butcher, Ferdinand Borchardt, of Hamburg, to the Contessa Bianca Santa de Borisl, youngest daughter of the Conte Bernardo de Borisl, of Capo d'Istria (Austria).

BROOKFIELD.—HAMILTON.—On the 11th Oct., at St. George's, Hanover-square, by the Right Rev. Bishop Cloughton, Chaplain-General to the Forces, assisted by the Rev. F. Garden, Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal, Arthur Montagu Brookfield, Lieutenant 13th Hussars, elder son of the late Rev. Prebendary Brookfield, and grandson of Sir Charles Elton, Bart., to Olive Harriet, only child of the late James Murray Hamilton, of Buffalo, United States.

DICKIE.—MORE.—On the 25th Aug., at Union Church, Hong Kong, by the Rev. Jas. Lamont, Henry Dickie, Sugar Refiner, to Annie, eldest daughter of Captain Robert More.

SMITH.—LEWIS.—On the 10th Oct., at Holy Trinity Church, Ryde, by the Rev. Arthur John Wade, M.A., Vicar, Henry Smith, Chief Accountant of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Hong Kong, to Eleanor, daughter of the late Edward G. Lewis, Staffordshire.

WILMOT.—HOARE.—On the 11th Oct., at Berlington Church, near Petworth, by the Rev. Frank Parnell, Rector of Oxford, assisted by the Rev. R. La-celles, Rector of Grafton, and the Rev. W. Newman, Rector of the parish, Sydney Endley Wilmot, Lieutenant Royal Navy, fourth son of Sir J. E. E. Wilmot, Bart., M.P., to Grace Maud, third daughter of Thomas H. Hoare, of Burton-park, Petworth.

DEATHS.

BATEMAN.—On the 24th Aug., at Bangkok, Samuel Bateman, Commissioner of H.S.M.'s Customs.

BRANDAO.—On the 28th Aug., Jose Gomes Brandao, aged 68.

BRAY.—On the 3rd Oct., at Natile, Ceylon, the Rev. Edmund William Bray, formerly Curate of Haslemere, Surrey, aged 28.

Fine—On the 5th Oct., William Richard Figg (tea trader), aged 53 years.
GLADSTONE—On the 7th Oct., Mary, the wife of Thomas Henry Gladwell, of Kensington post-road, and Gracechurch-street, aged 67.
JOHNSON—On the 21st Aug., at Shanghai, Capt. J. A. Johnson, of Baltimore, Maryland.
POSTLITHWAITE—On the 10th Oct., at his residence, 8, Blue Anchor-road, Bermondsey, de- ply regretted by all who knew him, William White Postlithwaite, aged 63.
ROKKE—On the 3rd Sept., on board the P. and O. steamer "Indostan," in the Straits of Malacca, Nicholas Rokke, R.N.R. Commander, P. and O. Company's service, aged 39 years.
RUTHERFORD—On the 7th Oct., at Aberdeen, Major Alexander Maxwell Rutherford, late of the 1st Buffs.
SANDERS—On the 11th Oct., at the residence of his son-in-law, 10, Lansdowne-place, Black-cath, S.E., John Sanders, Commander R.N., in his 82nd year.
WALBRIDGE—On the 14th Aug., at Bangkok, Alfred Walbridge, the youngest son of Capt. E. C. Walbridge, of U.S.M.'s Navy, aged seven years.

Market Reports.

(For dates see first page.)

EXPORTS.

TEA.

HIOGO-OSAKA.—The Chamber of Commerce Circular says:—Business has fallen off considerably during the past month, settlements amounting to less than one-third of the quantity purchased during the previous one, and making an aggregate of about 41,000 piculs for the season to date, against 33,200 piculs last year at the same time. Purchases have largely consisted of Bancha, at from \$6 to 8, while some attention has also been paid to finest and choice kinds, the intermediate grades being comparatively neglected. Holders appear unwilling to make sufficient concessions to induce any transactions of importance. Stocks have increased and are estimated at 6,000 to 7,000 piculs. The export of leaf from this district made up after the style of Congou is to be noticed. The enterprise is a private one, and under Government licence.

HANKOW.—There had been but a very moderate business done during the week, amounting to about 4,500 chests, at comparatively high prices; about 1,500 chests being upon Russian account. The market had been very firm, and it had been very difficult to buy, inferior Oanfa bringing up to Tls. 17½, the same price as paid for much better teas a month previously. The stock was very trifling, and arrivals few and far between, and the season was expected to close early; the rates current in Shanghai being so high as to induce the tea-men to send on all they can to that market. Common teas, having been so generally neglected by buyers, were in very small supply. Statistics to date were:—

	1877.	1876.
Total arrivals	598,000	658,000
Settlements and shipments ...	598,000	653,000
Stock	1,000	5,000
Total export from Hankow to all points:—		
1877	60,964,503 lbs.	
1876	65,027,660 "	

Deficiency 4,663,157 "

SHANGHAI.—Black: There had been a smaller business done during the week, settlements being:—Opack, 1,500 chests at Tls. 13½ to 21½; Oanfa, 1,000 chests at Tls. 16 to 23; Ningchow, 4,000 chests at Tls. 14 to 43½; Hohow, 500 chests at Tls. 13.10 to 15½; total, 7,000 chests; against for the same week last year 1,200 chests. The active demand reported last mail had subsided, the week's settlements amounting to just half the quantity. Arrivals had kept pace with the sales and stock remained at 11,000 chests. Prices showed little change, being, if anything, a trifle more in buyers' favour. This was owing to the diminished competition consequent upon the very low quotations telegraphed from London. Green: There had been a larger business done, settlements being:—Moyunc, 1,000 half-chests at Tls. 24 to 31½; Fychow, 500 half-chests at Tls. 24; Pinguey, 6,500 half-chests at Tls. 12 to 42½; total 8,000 half-chests against for the same week last year 9,000 half-chests. The business of the week, though small, had been double the previous week's amount. Buying had been chiefly for New York. Prices showed little change, though tea-men were anxious to sell at quotations. A heavy fall must occur to bring prices to a par with those telegraphed from both home markets.

FUCHOW.—Messrs. Westall, Galton's and Co.'s Weekly Letter of August 25 says:—A steady business has continued on this market during the past week. Settlements amount to 21,515 chests of Congou for England and the Colonies, and 1,380 half-chests of Oolong for America. Arrivals and settlements during the week are:—Arrived: 23,800 chests Congou; 2,100 chests Souchong; 2,000 half-chests Oolong; 5,000 boxes Scented Teas. Settled: 21,515 chests Congou; 1,904 chests Souchong; 1,380 half-chests Oolong; 96 chests Flowery Pekoe; 3,160 boxes Scented Teas. Congou: The stock and late arrivals are composed almost entirely of common to good common Teas. These have been freely dealt in, and a rise of Tl. ½ to 1 per picul may be quoted. Only a very few chops of flavour to medium have been placed on offer. These have met with eager competition, and towards the close of the week have been taken on quite a bad worse terms than last quotations. Arrivals are now coming freely to hand, and should business continue on the same scale and prices be maintained, supplies will, no doubt, exceed the lowest estimate that have been formed. Souchong: Prices are fully supported Oolong; 1,380 half-chests have been taken for America. Flowery Pekoe: A few small chops, amounting to 96 chests, have changed hands on the basis of the last settlements. Scented Teas remain about the same. Quotations are:—Congou: Medium, 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 4d.; Flavour to fair medium, 1½d. to 1s. 1½d.; Common to good common, 8½d. to 11d.; Dust to common, 5½d. to 8d. Souchong: Fine, 1s. 8d.; Fair to fine, 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 7½d.; Common to fair, 1½d. to 1s. 1½d. Oolong: Fair, 1½d. to 1s. 1½d. Flowery Pekoe: Fair to good, 1s. 6½d. to 2s. 2d. Scented Orange Pekoe: Fair, 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 4½d. Scented Caper: Fair, 1s. 6½d.

SILK.

SHANGHAI.—The North China Herald report says:—A very limited demand for silk at about Tls. 25 per picul lower than last mail's rates has to be recorded. Public and private telegrams differ considerably as to values of the article in London and Lyons, but the latter are accepted generally as showing the true position of affairs, unaltered apparently except for the worse. The settlements of 500 bales include:—Bird chop "Kin-hock," Tls. 340 (15s. 10d.); Bird chop "Fung-ling," Tls. 330 (15s. 4d.); S.S.S., Tls. 325 (15s. 2d.); Kuke's "Kin-ling," Tls. 320 (14s. 11d.); Common to Market No. 5 Tsattees, Tls. 290 and 315 (13s. 6d. and 14s. 8d.); 9/12 moss (old silk) Tls. 225 (10s. 7d.), and some consignments on native account amongst which are about 150 bales of "Pah-hoc" and "Pah-ling" Hochun Tsattees. The lower classes it will be noticed have been chiefly inquired for, chops being entirely out of favour. Purchases up country are said to continue on a very limited scale; arrivals only keep pace with settlements and the unsold stock is about 16,500 bales. Export remains comparatively very insignificant with prices nearly on a level with those current eighteen months since.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

At HIOGO.—From London, Aug. 8, Countess of Kintore; 9, Caroline; from Hamburg, 19, Bernhard Carl.
 At YOKOHAMA.—None.
 At SHANGHAI.—From Cardiff, Aug. 21, Supreme; from Liverpool, Oct. 8, Ulysses (str.); from Sydney, 6, Hallowe'en; from Hamburg, 11, Egeria (str.); from New York, 11, Goodell.
 At HONG KONG.—From Newcastle, N.S.W., Aug. 30, Northampton, Alva; 31, Circe; from Liverpool, Oct. 7, Denonion (str.).
 At BANGKOK.—From London, Aug. 13, Lyra; from Hamburg, 13, Ino; from Newcastle, N.S.W., 25, Chinkiang (str.).
 At SAIGON.—From Marseilles, Sept. 3, Sophie D.; from Bordeaux, 3, Isabelle.
 At SAMARANG.—From Rotterdam, Sept. —, Heudrika; from Ymuiden, Oct. 3, Sahmat.
 At BATAVIA.—From Shields, Oct. —, County of Ayr.
 At ANGER.—From Glasgow, (for Hio-go), Sept. 23, Sevilla.
 At SINGAPORE.—From Cardiff, Aug. 25, Triton; Oct. 10, Challenge, Matterhorn; 13, Carrizal; from London, Sept. 2, Bangkok; Oct. 7, Glenfiala (str.), Benary (str.); 10, Radnorshire (str.); from Shields, Sept. 7, Chili; from Barcelona, Oct. 6, Francoli (str.); from Liverpool, 10, Yrurac Bat (str.), Glaucus (str.); from Holland, 10, Professor Simon Thomas; from San Francisco, 10, Montrose; from Sunderland, 13, Sofo.

DEPARTURES.

From HIOGO.—For London, July 23, Carrington; for Falmouth, f.o., August 6, Leicester; for New York, 10, Glamis Castle (str.).
 From YOKOHAMA.—None.
 From NAGASAKI.—For the Channel f.o., July 28, Flying Spur.
 From SHANGHAI.—For London, Aug. 21, Killarney (str.); 23, Albert Victor; for New York, 21, Stratheden.
 From FUCHOW.—For London, Aug. 19, Lorne (str.); 23, Thingvalla (str.); 24, Mikado (str.); for Australia 31, Tullochgorum.
 From AMOY.—For the Channel, f.o., Aug. 15, Fugitive; for New York, Oct. 6, London Castle (str.).
 From HONG KONG.—For London, Aug. 25, Thingvalla (str.); 26, Polynesia; for Melbourne, 27, Caldw; for Portland, 31, Woodhall.
 From CEBU.—For London, Sept. 28, Fifeshire.
 From SAIGON.—None.
 From BANGKOK.—For Cherbourg, July 13, Ann Adamson; for the Channel, f.o., 14, Hester.
 From BATAVIA.—For Holland, Sept. 25, Thorbocke, 29, Prins Hendrik (str.).
 From SAMARANG.—For Amsterdam, Sept. 25, Antoinette.
 From SINGAPORE.—For London, Sept. 1, Thingvalla (str.); 4, Swiftsure; 5, Mikado (str.); 8, Huntly Castle; for New York, Oct. 12, London Castle (str.).

THE MAILS.

PRESENT INWARD MAIL.—MARSEILLES, Oct. 12.—The Messageries Maritimes steamer Imouaddy, with the inward French mails from China and Japan, arrived here at seven a.m. to-day. She brings fifty passengers and a general cargo, including 371 bales of silk, 35,500 packages of tea, 1,864 packages of sundries; also specie valued £10,500 for London, which part of her cargo will be forwarded to its destination per Company's steamer Euphrate, due in London on or about the 25th inst.

HEAVY PORTION OF LAST INWARD MAIL.—SOUTHAMPTON, Oct. 12.—The P. and O. Company's steamship Hindostan, from China via the Suez Canal, arrived this morning, bringing the heavy India and China mails, 143 passengers, £200,686 in specie, 38,370 chests of tea, 892 bales of silk and sundries.

NEXT INWARD MAIL.—ALEXANDRIA, Oct. 15.—The P. and O. Company's steamer Ceylon, with the mails ex Travancore from Bombay and Peshawar, from China, left at 6 a.m. for Brindisi.

OUTWARD MAIL OF SEPT. 7.—SINGAPORE, Oct. 10.—The Messageries Maritimes steamer Amazone, from Marseilles Sept. 9, Galle, Oct. 2, has arrived here.

EXPORTS FROM JAVA FROM JULY 1, 1876, TO JUNE 1877.

	To Holland.	To France.	To Italy.	To Singapore.	To Penang.	To Channel f.o.
Coffee ... piculs ...	859,177	17,493	5,234	6,834	—	3 00
Sugar ... " ...	691,819	14,076	—	3,992	28,114	1,964 485
Rice ... " ...	95,138	—	—	—	—	2 352
Pepper ... " ...	15,419	—	—	4,201	—	898
Indigo ... lbs. ...	1,051,123	—	—	47,609	—	—

EXPORT OF TEA FROM NAGASAKI, SEASON 1877-78.

To United States and Canada	... lbs. 57,182
" England	... " 3,000

EXPORT OF WAX FROM NAGASAKI, FROM JAN. 1 TO AUG. 16, 1877.

To Great Britain	... piculs 167
" China and elsewhere	... " 1,751

EXPORT OF TOBACCO FROM NAGASAKI, FROM JAN. 1 TO AUG. 16, 1877.

To Great Britain	... piculs 7,458
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COMPARATIVE EXPORTS FROM MANILA, CEBU, AND ILO ILO FROM JAN. 1 TO AUG. 4, 1877 AND 1876.

Produce.	—	Great Britain		Continent of Europe		United States		Australia		San Francisco	
		1877.	1876.	1877.	1876.	1877.	1876.	1877.	1876.	1877.	1876.
Sugar	Tons.	9196	89196	1842	1095	16995	34606	—	876	6547	18868
Hemp	Bales	1583	952	761	2770	89197	53911	2277	5810	610	18373
Coffee	Tons.	1563	503	1426	1664	—	—	—	—	119	290
Cigars	Mil.	7627	6468	1666	320	640	235	3935	3537	250	253
Indigo	Qrs.	959	159	—	53	1964	1619	—	—	—	—

EXCHANGES, & c.
(For dates see first page.)
ON LONDON.

At	Bank Bills.	Credits.	Documentary.
Yokohama, 8 m.s.	3s. 11½d.	4s. 0d. to 3s. 11½d.	4s. 6½d. to 4s. 0d.
Shanghai	3s. 4½d.	5s. 5½d.	5s. 5½d.
Canton	3s. 11½d.	3s. 11½d. to 3s. 11½d.	3s. 11½d. to 3s. 11½d.
Hong Kong	3s. 11½d.	4s. 0d.	4s. 0d.
Manila	4s. 1½d.	4s. 1½d.	4s. 1½d.

MISCELLANEOUS.

	At Shanghai.	At Hong Kong.
Bills on India	Rs. 306 to 307	Rs. 232
" Hong Kong	27 to 27½ dis.	—
Bar silver	Tls. 111.2.0	98 prem. (nominal)
Mexican dollars	Tls. 73.6.0	4 prem. (nominal)

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 39 prem.
Shanghai Dock Company, Tls. 240.
Shanghai Gas Company, Tls. 112½.
Steam Tug and Boat Association, Tls. 100 (nominal).
French Gas Co. pany, Tls. 73½.
Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, 4515.
North China Insurance Company, Tls. 860.
Yongtze Insurance Association, Tls. 750.
Union Insurance Society, 500.
China Traders' Company (Limited), \$3,700.
China Fire Insurance Company, Tls. 163.
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company, Tls. 90.
Chinese Imperial Loan, £106.
Futong Dock Company, Tls. 86.
China Coast Steam Navigation Company, Tls. 69.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Company (in liquidation), Tls. 30.

HONG KONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank 45 per cent. prem.
Hong Kong Gas Company, 275 per share, nominal.
Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock, 20 per cent. discount.
China Traders' Insurance Company, \$2,500 per share.
Hotel Shares, \$60 per share.
Hong Kong, Canton, and Marseilles Steamship Company, 12 per cent. dis.
Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, \$630 per share.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, \$300 per share.
China Fire Insurance Company, \$167 per share.
Chinese Insurance Company, \$250 per share.
Chinese Imperial Loan, £106 (exchange is 14d).
Shanghai Steam Navigation Company Tls. 30 per share, nominal.

SINGAPORE SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Tanjong Pagar Dock Shares (\$100 paid), \$137½.
New Harbour Dock Company (\$100 paid), par.
Singapore Gas Company (£5 paid), par.
Galena Mining Company (\$25 paid), nominal.
Singapore Steamship Company (Limited), par.

* The latest telegrams report the rate for six months bank bills at Singapore 4s. 0d., Hong Kong 3s. 11½d., at Shanghai 5s. 5½d.

TELEGRAMS FROM THE FAR EAST.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT.

SHANGHAI, OCT. 11.—Tone of Cotton Goods dull; 8½ lbs. Grey Shirtings, Tls. 1.8.0; Silk market strong; No. 4 Tealree, Tls. 445. Total export to date 6,000 bales.

HONG KONG MARKET REPORT.

(REUTERS TELEGRAMS.)

HONG KONG, OCT. 11.—Tone of Cotton Goods flat; 8½ lbs. Grey Shirtings, \$2.27; 16-24 Water Twist, \$95. Total export of Tea to date 119,000,000 lbs.

SHIPPING POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT IN THE TABLES.—October 10, at Havre, from Singapore, Sauvageard; 11, at Liverpool, from Rangoon, Khimjee Oodowjee; at London, from Foochow, Thingwalla (str.); from Hankow, Cutty Sark; from Rangoon, Z. Ring; 12, from Penang, Clanalpine; at Falmouth, from Rangoon, Luigia Olivari; at Liverpool, from Rangoon, Concordia; 1, San Francisco, from Hong Kong, China; 11, at Texel,

from Batavia, Gebroeders; at Antwerp, from Bassin, Varoni; at Flushing, from Akyab, Aquila; from Maulmain, P. C. Peterson; at Greenock, from Samaraug, Serapis (str.); at London, from Akyab, Galileo C.; from Foochow, Mecca (str.); 12, from Singapore, James Wishart; from Manila, Carica; from Bassin, Janet Court; at Falmouth, from Rangoon, Carmelina, C. Boschetto; at San Francisco, from Manila, Portland Lloyd's; at Boston, from Manila, Grecian; at Liverpool, from Rangoon, Secondo Tre Fanciulli; 13, from Bassin, Itonius; from Akyab, Aurora B. S.; at London, from Shanghai, Hindolstan (str.); from Maulmain, Canute.

DEPARTURES.—October 9, from Ymuiden, for Macassar, Gylding; 11, from Cardiff, for Singapore, Marathon; from Southampton, for Batavia, Hampton (str.); 11, from Hamburg, for Bangkok, Civiale; from London, for Singapore, &c., State of Alabama, &c.

SPOKEN.—Ironside, Singapore to London, August 20, 12 S., 12 W.; Waterloo, Holland to Batavia, Sept. 8, 15 N., 26 W., Carl Ritter, Cardiff to Shanghai, August 25, 3 N., 25 W.; Eumenides, Rangoon to Liverpool, Sept. 21, 48 N., 20 W., with loss of head gear, &c.; Annie Main, Penang to London, Sept. 13, 7 miles E.S.E. of Table Mountain; Cornelia, Java to Rotterdam, Aug. 8, 31 S., 12 E.; Caricks, Hong Kong to Falmouth, July 8, 1 N., 130 E.; Friedrich, Boston to Singapore, Sept. 5, 21 N., 35 W.

MISCELLANEOUS.—East London. Sailed September 6, Smyrniote, for Anjer.—Malta, Oct. 13, sighted Zanzibar (str.); London for Penang, &c.—Cape Town, Sept. 13, sailed, Hessa Rich, for Guam.—Simon's Bay, Sept. 12, sailed, Inviacible, for Anjer.—Port Elizabeth, Sept. 12, arrived, Hesta, from Bangkok.

CASUALTIES.—Dublin, Oct. 12, Heron (str.); reported put into Kingstown on her voyage from Glasgow to Manila, broken down; crew refusing to proceed, sent back to Glasgow.—Cape Town, the Hannah and Mary, from Hong Kong to Falmouth, put into Simon's Bay, 22 Sept. with damage to bulwarks, galley swept overboard, and captain dead; first officer in charge.—Port Elizabeth, Sept. 14, the Hesta, from Bangkok to London, put into Algoa Bay, Sept. 12, with loss of spars and sails. Her hull is believed to be uninjured. The Ceres, from Maulmain, proceeded from Algoa Bay, Sept. 8, for Scilly.

Naval and Military.

We understand that Admiral G. Greville Wellesley, C.B., will succeed Admiral Sir Hastings Yelverton, G.C.B., as senior Naval Lord Commissioner of the Admiralty on the retirement of the latter officer.

The Tamar, troopship, Captain Liddell, sailed from Portsmouth on the 13th inst., with reliefs for the Vigilant, Lapwing, Egeria, and Fly, on the China station; Captain Moore-Lane, Sub lieutenant Pilkington, and eighty-eight men of the 28th Regiment, and Surgeon B. Large, A.M.D., for Hong Kong; and Sub lieutenant Midwood, 74th Regiment, for Singapore. She will embark at Kingstown for Gibraltar and Malta Captain Graves and Sub lieutenant Lloyd Mostyn, 2nd Battalion 23rd Regiment; Captain Vetch, 102nd Regiment; Sub lieutenant Longe, 57th Regiment; and Lieut. Macdonald, Sub lieutenant Henneage, and Lieut. Synges, of the 74th Regiment.

The current Navy List announces that H.M.'s ships Amethyst and Fantome, on the Pacific station, and H.M.'s ship Encounter on the North America and West India station, are ordered home. The Amethyst was commissioned at Devonport, July 1873; the Fantome at Devonport, Dec. 1873; and the Encounter at Sheerness, August 1873.

The Wild Swan, 6, composite sloop, Commander Powlett, has sailed for the East Indies, via Suez Canal. She will call at Gibraltar and Malta en route. The Penguin, 6, composite sloop, Commander Paget, has sailed for the Pacific station, and the Turquoise, composite screw corvette for the West Indies.

Major-General Arnold E. Burmester, C.B., late of the 59th Regiment, died at Bayswater, on the 3rd inst., in his sixty-sixth year. The deceased officer commanded the 59th Regiment at the operations before Canton, and capture of the city, for which he was rewarded with the medal with clasp, was promoted to brevet lieutenant-colonel, and made a C.B.

Col. G. T. Field, R.A., late superintendent of the Royal Carriage Department, and at present in charge of the Field Artillery at Woolwich, will shortly take over the command of the Royal Artillery in the Northern District. Col. W. E. F. Gosling, R.H.A., will succeed Col. C. S. Henry in command of the Royal Horse Artillery at Aldershot.

Major H. S. Palmer, R.E., acting as aide-de-camp to Capt. G. C. Strachan, C.M.G., Royal Artillery, Governor of Barbadoes, has received orders to vacate his appointment and proceed to Hong Kong for duty at that station.

The Lords of the Admiralty completed their annual inspection of the naval establishments at Portsmouth on the 5th inst. and proceeded to Devonport. Having inspected the dockyard there their Lordships proceeded to Pembroke on the 10th inst.

Captain C. J. Brownrigg has been appointed to the command of the Junna, v. D'Arcy, whose period of service has expired.

The Sultan, with the Duke of Edinburgh on board, arrived at Malta on the 10th inst., from Besika Bay and Syria.

Lieutenant G. A. G. Grey has been appointed to the command of the Mosquito on the China station.

At the Marylebone Police-court Sheng Kusi, one of the servants of the Chinese Legation, was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Stanhope-street, Euston-road. Dr. Macartney, the secretary of the Legation, was in attendance, and was sworn as an interpreter. He said he presumed that, on his identifying the defendant as belonging to the Chinese Legation, and one of those whose names had been given to the police and the Foreign-office, on that ground the man would be liberated, to be dealt with by the Legation. The magistrate having heard the evidence discharged the accused.

Mr. W. R. Figg, a gentleman well known in connection with the Tea trade, and having many friends in China, has died suddenly.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON: MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1877.

THIS MAIL'S NEWS.

By the present mail intelligence is brought of a further development of the "cart before the horse" policy which has been adopted in the carrying out of the provisions of the Chefoo Convention before it has been ratified. A notification is published from H.M. *Chargé d'Affaires* at Peking with reference to the opening of five new places of call for steamers on the Yangtze, and the rules with regard to the landing and shipping of merchandise at them have been given out by the Chinese. These rules, it is understood, are to be adopted experimentally by the native Customs officials at these places—which, not being treaty ports, will not fall under the Imperial Maritime Customs régime. Very careful provisions have been made for the payment of *lekin*, but the transit-pass provisions of the treaties of course retain their full power as regards foreign goods. A translation of the text of the memorial with reference to opium smoking which was forwarded by H.E. Kuo, the Chinese Envoy here to his Government, has been published. The arguments which he advances are noticeable, especially as showing the length of time which opium has been cultivated in China. The authorities at the capital have at last taken official notice of the recent public distress. The *Peking Gazette* of the 1st August contains a decree, based upon a memorial from the Censor Shen Hung, lamenting the afflictions of drought, floods, locusts, and storm, which have lately visited nearly every province in the Empire; and expressing the profound sympathy of the Emperor with the sufferings of the people. The high provincial officials are instructed again to report the extent of the harm sustained, and the measures that should be instituted for relief, "In order that his Majesty's anxious care may be assuaged." Two magistrates in the department of Yeoyang have been impeached, it is supposed in consequence of their not putting down disturbances between the Roman Catholic proselytes and non-Christian Chinese, though other grounds are ostensibly adopted for their degradation. The apprehensions with regard to the locusts in the neighbourhood of Shanghai have diminished in consequence of heavy rain setting in, since which time the insects seem to have disappeared. At Canton, in consequence of the disasters to the crops rice was to be imported free of duty and Government granaries were to be opened. The native merchants were also ordered not to charge famine prices for the article. A severe whirlwind visited Canton on August 21. King-qua, the last of the old Hong merchants, has died at the age of eighty-eight years. In Hong Kong the attempts of Mr. Pope Hennessy to govern Hong Kong upon ultra advanced principles do not appear to be very successful. Last mail brought news of the *fiasco* connected with the competitive examination of Chinese clerks for the magistracy, and by the present mail we are informed that the scheme for introducing native turnkeys into the gaol has failed for the very simple reason that Chinese are afraid to take such dangerous posts. His ultra views are strongly animadverted upon by the local press, and in a communication which we publish this mail from a correspondent.

From the Straits we have the report of the meeting of the Tanjong Pagar Dock Company, the returns of Revenue, &c., from Perak, and the acceptance by Mr. Adamson of the seat in the Council during the absence of Mr. Read. From Bangkok the chief items of news are the Government notification of the stoppage of rice exports, and the death of Mr. Bateman, for fifteen years in the service of the Siam Government, latterly as Chief Commissioner of Customs. From Manila advices report scarcity of grain, owing to drought.

ACCORDING to telegraphic advices received at the Colonial office, Sir WM. ROBINSON, the new Governor for the Straits Settlements, left by the P. and O. mail on the 6th inst. for Galle and Singapore. Sir WILLIAM JERVOIS was sworn in as Governor of South Australia on the 2nd inst.

THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS AND THE CHINESE MINISTER.

IN another column we give in detail the answer which H.E. KUO, the Chinese Envoy, gave to the address sent to them by the Society of Friends on the subject of the Opium traffic. The statement which his Excellency makes with respect to the Chefoo Convention, to the effect, namely, that "The Shanghai Chamber of Commerce contemplate petitioning the Foreign-office and protesting against the ratification of the Convention," goes somewhat further than the information which those in a position to be fully informed on the subject appear to possess. That the Shanghai Chamber has through its chairman forwarded to its London Committee some representations upon special points has been known to the public for some time back; but this is a very different matter to "protesting against the ratification of the Convention." Whether this statement is due to inaccuracy in rendering the Envoy's utterance or to a misapprehension on the part of his Excellency is of course not clear; but it is evident that it is founded upon some misapprehension. This system of obtaining *ex parte* statements from the Chinese Ministers is, we think, to be deprecated, chiefly on the ground of its extreme liability to lead to mistakes such as the one which appears to have been made. With the views enunciated by H.E. KUO with regard to *Lekin* few who are acquainted with the true facts connected with foreign trade in China will agree. It is, in fact, notorious that the *Lekin* and Barrier dues hamper foreign trade most seriously, and the fact that prices of certain imports have fallen is clearly no argument to the contrary. There is also a rather marked inconsistency between the view which H.E. now takes as to the benefit which China would derive from India ceasing to grow opium, as compared with the view he gave forth a short time back to the deputation from the Anti-Opium Society which waited upon him with regard to this special subject, and to whom he expressed his opinion that in order to effect any good in this way it would be necessary that all foreign nations should combine in the matter. The Envoy appears to regret that his Government at present derive a large revenue (estimated with *Lekin* at £1,000,000) from opium. He says, however, "This sum is not great, and its collection cannot have much effect upon foreign trade;" but it is evident that, conscious of the evil effects which opium produces, he would prefer that his Government derived no profit from the traffic. The Chinese Envoy may rely upon the public here going as far as he can wish in deprecating the injury which opium produces; but it cannot be lost sight of that the matter is entirely in the hands of the Chinese Government, and that they are perfectly free to take any steps—both by increase of inland duties and otherwise—to put down the use and cultivation of the drug in China. H.E. KUO tells us that "The Chinese Government now contemplate taking measures to prevent opium-smoking in China." No one can doubt their sincerity, seeing that they have been intending to do so for so many years past; but it is to be hoped they will now find out some more effectual mode of attaining the end in view than those which they have hitherto essayed.

OPIUM AND THE CHEFOO CONVENTION.

WHILE the subject of opium as connected with the Chefoo Convention is attracting some attention, it may be well to lay before the public the precise nature of the question which has to be decided. The simple issue is: Will the arrangement proposed by Sir THOMAS WADE, whereby the *lekin* will be collected by the Foreign Customs Establishments at the Treaty Ports result in the Chinese further imposing the same *lekin* dues as before upon the drug after it has left the limits of the Settlements? If so, all that we shall do by the proposed arrangement is to increase the taxation, and leave the matter otherwise precisely as it was before. The probability certainly is that only this result will be brought about; and it thus becomes a fair question whether we are called upon to assist the Chinese Government to levy internal dues, which will be directly against our own interests. The Chinese Government are, and always have been, at full liberty to raise any taxes they please upon opium in the country, and they can therefore take any reasonable measures they like for doing so. The point at issue at present is within the

narrowest limits. It is purely a financial question, and whatever the general merits of the opium trade may be, it may be taken as certain that both our own Government and the Chinese Government can and will only consider the matter at issue officially upon the economical and financial grounds upon which it has been raised. The complaint of the Chinese which induced Sir THOS. WADE to introduce the new clause as to the likin into the Convention was not directed against the importation of opium, but it was that they found a difficulty in levying the likin duty upon the drug when imported, and thus the only question raised by the Convention on this head is whether we shall assist the Chinese authorities out of this difficulty or leave them as heretofore to make whatever arrangements they please for the levy of all internal duties upon the drug.

WE reproduce from *The Times* a leading article on the Woosung Railway, founded upon the information of this subject supplied by its Shanghai correspondent, which coincides with that which we gave some time back, and which is confirmed by the news brought by the last mail. Mr. JOHN DIXON, the constructor of the line, writes to the paper above named in a hopeful strain. *Nil desperandum*, he says, is his motto; and he goes on to observe with much justice that a railway in active operation in the heart of China has been working for a twelvemonth, its trains crammed to such an extent that they have constantly had to start (being full) long before the appointed time. The passenger traffic has been so great that the railway has never been able to carry an ounce of goods. Yet it has in the first year of its existence shown its capacity to earn a dividend of 10 to 15 per cent.—and has earned it too—and it has done all this without any single accident; for he does not regard as an accident the suicide of a stupid maniac before the train. Whatever, therefore, may be the fate to which the personal prejudice of the Viceroy of Nankin may consign it, a great step has been gained that will tell its tale before long. But he notes the "funeral dirge of the Woosung and Shanghai Railway is not yet to be sung; it is still in active life, and while there is life surely there is hope."

THE China Customs Medical Reports for the half-year ending March 1877 do not contain much of interest to the general reader; but this is compensated for by a paper on *Hæmatoza* by Dr. PATRICK MANSON, of Amoy, which will be of great value in a professional point of view, though perhaps rather horrifying to the lay reader. He gives particulars of a minute parasite which finds its way into the blood both of dogs and men, giving rise to a variety of diseases—the details of which are very curious, if somewhat startling. From the remaining reports, the general health in China during the period under review appears to have been good. Dr. JARDINE, of Kiukiang, speaks in high terms of the bungalow on the summit of Lushan, where the community have a pleasing summer retreat, which is regarded as the Sanitarium both of Kiukiang and Hankow. The community during the latter half of last year were peculiarly healthy, and no deaths occurred. At Tamsui Dr. RINGER reports the general health as good, and Dr. SCOTT gives a similar report from Swatow. Dr. JAMIESON, of Shanghai, is disappointingly brief (his papers being usually of much general interest.)

THE WOOSUNG RAILWAY.

(THE TIMES.)

Our Correspondent at Shanghai does not state that the Viceroy has announced that the traffic on the Woosung line will be suspended after the 31st inst. The authorities are said to be "remarkably reticent" on the point. But the intentions of the Provincial Government are reasonably inferred from the manner in which the Viceroy not long ago received an inquiry from a subordinate officer respecting the payment of the last instalment of the purchase money and the re-engagement of the official staff. Of course, if the Chinese contemplated working the railway themselves, they would have either to retain or to replace the present staff. But the Viceroy has given no instructions for the one or the other. He has simply directed the final payment to be made, adding that he had long made up his mind what to do with the line when it came at last into his hands. Li-Hung-Chang, to whom an appeal was made, "confirmed the impression that he line was doomed, and declared his intention of not interfering in the matter." All this points to a settled design of extirpating the new enterprise, though after the transfer of the railway to the Chinese

themselves there can be no pretence that it was giving a dangerous influence to foreigners. Nor for months past has there been any ground for alleging that the trains had a tendency to excite panic or disturbance, for the people, as we have said, have freely and contentedly used them. The abandonment of the line, if it be abandoned, will be, as a Shanghai newspaper says, "a simple piece of stolid, stupid, sulky Conservatism." But what is the use of calling Chinese Conservatism hard names? We know that it is the most potent influence in Chinese society. Strong in the peasants and middle class, it is strongest of all in the official hierarchy who monopolise power in China. We do not know how far the Mandarins are "incapable of taking in new ideas," but it is certain that they do not wish to take in new ideas, and until the appetite for novelty begins to be felt in high places there is little use in bringing new ideas, either in a practical or a theoretical form, before the Chinese mind. If the authorities will not work the Woosung Railway when they are placed in possession of it in full working order, and when they have paid for it in hard cash, there is little hope for the sanguine speculators who persuade themselves and others that they can obtain concessions for such undertakings as the line from Shanghai to Soochow referred to in our Correspondent's letter. Those Chinese, be they many or few, who "would be thankful to a foreign Government which would dictate a more intelligent course of action," have not the courage to speak their minds. Foreign Governments cannot undertake to compel their own subjects, not to speak of Chinese Mandarins, to adopt an "intelligent course of action." We must wait for a long time, it is feared, before the official class in China will tolerate any of the beauties of European civilisation, and we have neither the will nor the power to hasten the progress towards toleration by the use of force.

THE CHINAMAN IN COURT.

(DAILY TELEGRAPH.)

Had either Bret Harte or the author of "Hans Breitmann's Ballads" been present at the Marglebone Police-court the other day, we might have had another tale of the "Heathen Chinee," not perhaps as full of original humour as the grand roman of Ah Sin, but at the same time sufficient to afford matter both for amusement and serious reflection. Sheng Kusi, aged thirty-six, resident at 45, Portland-place, and described as a native of China, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly in Stanhope-street, Euston road. What precise kind of "disorder" Sheng Kusi had committed we are not told. History is silent as to whether he had merely sat down on a doorstep, and declined to "move on," or—as he himself would perhaps put it—"Velly muchee glute fole;" or whether he had gone so far as to create a disturbance and cause a crowd to assemble—whether, in other words, he had "catchee muchee dlinkee, catchee muchee dlink insid 'um, makey one glate piecey bobbely." Suffice it to say, that no sooner was the guilty Sheng Kusi placed in the dock than Mr. Macartney, the learned Secretary of the Chinese Embassy, appeared in Court, and, having been duly sworn as interpreter, deposed that the defendant was in the employment of the Chinese Envoys, and, consequently, claimed exemption from the jurisdiction of the learned magistrate. This fact having been satisfactorily established, Sheng Kusi was liberated, to be dealt with by the authorities of the Legation. What they are likely to do with him it is somewhat difficult to conjecture. They can hardly discharge him from their service, as to turn the Chinaman adrift in London would be an act of cruelty disproportioned to his offence, for there are not many respectable Chinese families resident in the metropolis with whom the imprudent Celestial might get another situation, while domestics of his race have not yet found favour among ourselves. Probably the amiable and intelligent Envoys will find some means of keeping their yellow retainer in order, and in a state of sobriety, for the future.

Sheng Kusi, no doubt, has his own view of the affair. He does not understand that, exactly as by the famous precedent established in "Semayne's case," an Englishman's house is his castle, so, by the comity of nations, the house of an Ambassador is part of the soil of the country which he represents, and his servants owe allegiance to that country and to no other. There is no better recognised portion of international law than that relating to ambassadorial privileges. Some twenty years ago, it is said, the Persian Envoy at one of the chief European Courts ordered a servant of his to be flayed alive. The offence that the luckless menial had committed was of an excessively heinous character. He had been put in charge of a charcoal stove; he had allowed it to get out of order; and the noxious vapours from it had asphyxiated the Ambassador's son. In Persia instant impalement would have been the reward for such *crassa negligentia*, and in contenting himself with simply ordering the offender to be flayed alive, the Envoy probably felt that he was exercising considerable mercy and forbearance, and doing much to meet half-way the foolish prejudices of a nation of Giaours and Franks. Unfortunately the Giaours took a different view, but withal firmly intimated to the Ambassador that, although by the comity of nations he was at liberty, if he so chose, to flay his servant alive in his own back garden, the taking of such a step would none the less be regarded as an indication of a wish to break off diplomatic relations. The Envoy's answer showed him a profound adept in the Machiavellian art. He replied that the offender, in deference to the wishes of the Court to which he, the Envoy, was accredited, should not be flayed alive, but should be sent back to Persia. The letter of this promise was strictly fulfilled. The wretched man was sent back to Persia, it is true; but he was heavily unmanacled in a ponderous iron cage and with instructions that he was to be, on his arrival in Persia, pegged down over an ant's nest. So, at least, the story goes. Had such an incident occurred in England a singular conflict of laws would have arisen. A *habeas corpus* could have been applied for in behalf of the miserable prisoner, and would have been granted as a matter of course, inasmuch as the Court of Queen's Bench cannot possibly recognise the comity of nations as overriding the law of England. No cause having been shown against the writ, the offender would have been discharged, and it is excessively doubt-

ful, as a Constitutional question, whether he could have been again arrested by virtue of a warrant under the Privy Seal. The sole object of *habeas corpus* was to put a stop to illegal detention of its subjects on the part of the Crown, and, although the point has never yet arisen, there is every reason to believe that *habeas corpus* is a writ of even more than that sanctity which Mr. Weller ascribed to it, and overriding the Royal prerogative itself. Mr. Sheng Kusi himself is, in all probability, hardly aware of these nice legal points. In his opinion his liberation is, no doubt, merely another proof of the triumph of the Chinese race over the barbarians. When returned to Peking he will tell his story in his own way. "One tin, some tin," he will say, "me makey go Ingles side, longside Fankwei debils; makey go one small piecey walk. Catchee dlink. Debils' dlink velly glate along. Sheng Kusi catchee dlink top-sid 'um head; makey much glate bobbely. Fankwei mandalin pidgin man, he catchee Sheng Kusi; make Sheng Kusi catch one glate bang top-sid 'um head; takey Sheng Kusi longside mandalin pidgin house; give 'um no chow chow. Next day, sun-down-side, mandalin say, 'No can do so fashion. Sheng Kusi be Chinaman, belongey Pekinside, no can touch Chinaman belongey Pekinside.' Mandalin let Sheng Kusi go. Mandalin be velly much chin-chen Sheng Kusi. Dat belongey be Chinaman Pekinside. Fankwei debils velly glate flade of Chinaman. No can do." So will Sheng Kusi tell his artless tale.

Monetary and Commercial.

The Tea market during the past week continued in the extraordinary position we have noticed for some weeks past, the bulk of the teas selling at 6½d. to 1s. per lb., from which our readers in China can realise the protracted unsatisfactory condition of the trade. The well known clipper *Cutty Sark* arrived yesterday with the first cargo this season *via* the Cape, and a fair inquiry is anticipated for the cargo. The finest teas, the "Kin-Tuck," usually bought for Russia, have, in consequence of the unfavourable exchange, which has led to a lower class being used there this season, only gone partially into consumption. To effect sales of those still held by importers, considerably lower prices would have to be submitted to. They have also been largely interfered with by the heavy arrivals of Indian of late. The shipments of common teas to Russia continue upon a large scale. Green Teas show no improvement, and the consumption is without doubt becoming more and more limited. We hear by the latest telegram of large stocks accumulating in China, where the stock is estimated at 100,000 4-chests.

For the week ending with the 6th inst. the total quantity of tea delivered from the bonded warehouses in London was 4,663,190 lbs., or, as compared with the preceding week, an increase of close upon 21 per cent. Of the total, 2,364,152 lbs. was for home consumption, 1,331,073 lbs. was for export, 819,872 lb. was removed coastwise, 145,812 lbs. was sent coastwise for exportation, and 2,281 lbs. was for ships' stores. The duty received was increased by 41,249, or 2½ per cent., the total being £50,104, as against £57,856 in the previous week.

During the nine months of the present year, which have just terminated, the importation of tea has been about 10,000,000 lbs. less than the quantity imported during the corresponding nine months of last year. There has, however, been an appreciable increase in the quantity taken out of bond; for, whereas, during the first nine months of 1876 the quantity cleared was 132,780,025 lbs., the quantity released from bond this year has been 139,182,220 lbs. The tea duty paid in London from the 1st January to the 30th September, 1876, was £2,128,982 19s. 6d.; while during the first nine months of the present year the revenue derived from the same source was £2,173,511 9s.

The strong position of the Silk market which we indicated last week has had the anticipated effect of inducing transactions at greatly improved prices. The large business done during the week has resulted in an advance of 2s. 6d. on Chinas and Japans from the lowest point of last month. The deliveries also show a decided improvement, and the other features of the market are more encouraging than they have been at any previous time this year. The arrivals of new Silk to the end of the year cannot be sufficient even for the moderate consumption going on previous to this month. Consequently stocks must be greatly reduced within that period. Although the present movement is largely speculative it is still based upon consumption, and the fact that prudent manufacturers are laying in some little stock augurs well for still further advances.

In the Produce Markets dulness is still the prevailing feature, and prices for several articles present a declining tendency. The Coffee market continues dull, and has undergone a further decline. Cotton has been active at rising values. Sugar is inactive and lower; Hainan China has sold at 19s. 6d. to 20s. 6d., Penang at 18s. 6d. per cwt. There has been an active demand for floating cargoes of Rice, which have realised higher prices. Pepper, China Galls, Cutch, Gambier, Sago and Tin have likewise improved in value; Sticklac has declined.

A despatch from Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General at Bangkok reports that the Siamese Government have notified their intention to prohibit the exportation of rice from the 23rd of September, 1877, to the 13th of September, 1878, but that the prohibition will be withdrawn at the earliest possible date if

the next crop should prove satisfactory. From private information we learn that the reason for this measure is the drought which has taken place. Though the prohibition is nominally for a year, it will be taken off should there be a good rainfall and the crops appear satisfactory. The full text of the notification will be found in another column.

The directors of the Oriental Bank Corporation announce an interim dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum for the half-year ended the 30th June last.

The directors of Renter's Telegram Company have declared the usual interim dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum for the half-year ending June 30 last, payable on the 15th inst.

The partnership of the late firm of Galbraith, Stringer, Pembroke and Co. having terminated, Mr. E. P. Stringer has taken into partnership his son, Edgar Lindsay Stringer, and will continue the business of ship and insurance brokers and commission agents, under the style of E. P. Stringer and Co., at 36, Leadenhall-street. Arrangements have been made with Messrs. Thos. and Wm. Smith, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, to act as their agents.

The managers of the German Steam Company (*Deutsche Dampfschiffs Rhederei*) ask us to state, in reference to the paragraph in the Hamburg letter of our last issue, that their steamers are quite suitable and constantly employed in the China Coast service. That they are well patronised is shown by the *Egeria* having to shut out over 100 tons cargo, and the *Feronia* sailed on the 6th with a full cargo.

The Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris notify that their London offices have been removed to 52, Threadneedle-street.

One effect of the termination of the civil war in Japan will be a considerable fall in the prices of blankets and woollens, as large quantities of these goods which were sent out to meet the demand for the troops will now be thrown upon the market.

The market for Bar Silver has been very unsettled, and owing to the near approach of the holidays in Calcutta, which continue for a fortnight, transactions have been limited, and prices have gradually declined from 55½d. per oz. to 54½d. per oz., a rate at which business has been done. Mexican Dollars have been sold at 54d. per oz.; the market is, however, now weaker, and the amounts now here will not be placed for a few days.

DOCUMENTARY AND PRIVATE BILLS.

	60 d/s.
Colombo	1s. 8½d.
Singapore	3s. 9½d. to 3s. 9½d.
Hong Kong	3s. 9½d. to 3s. 9½d.
Shanghai	5s. 2½d. to 5s. 2½d.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.

Messrs. Arthur Capel and Co.'s Circular says:—There has been a fair amount of business done in our market during the past week, exporters having been buyers of common to fair black-leaf Congous. Prices show no material alteration, but for most descriptions it is difficult to effect sales at previous quotations. Congous:—Red-leaf kinds: Siftings are without alteration; common to good common have sold at previous prices; fair kinds are only saleable at easier rates; medium to good medium and fine are in limited demand, and show no change in prices. Pak Lin kinds are unchanged. Black-leaf kinds: Common to good common have been more inquired for to execute export orders; fair kinds with good leaf have been taken for export to some extent at 10d. to 11d. per lb.; fair to good medium and fine descriptions are neglected, the demand being at present very limited. In finest but little has been done. New-make descriptions of common quality are saleable at 8d. to 8½d. per lb., and fair to good are in moderate demand, the few parcels out of late arrivals having realised full prices. Oolongs: A parcel of low quality has been sold in public auction at 8½d. per lb.; common to fair have sold slowly at 11d. to 1s. 1d. per lb.; good to fine Formosa kinds have been inquired for, and desirable parcels of fine would be competed for. Souchongs are in limited demand at previous rates. Scented Teas: Canton Capers have been moved off at prices in favour of buyers, common to fair qualities realising 9d. to 1s. 1d. per lb. Orange Pekoes are difficult of sale at lower prices. Fenchow Capers are not wanted, and Orange Pekoes sell slowly at declining rates. Green Teas at public auction have gone at slightly improved prices. The public sales have been small, comprising 12,806 packages, the whole of which have been sold without reserve. The deliveries for the week, as compared with last year, are as follows, viz.:—

	1877.	1876.
	lbs.	lbs.
Home Consumption	2,368,890	2,331,111
Coastwise	763,524	857,404
Exports	1,238,910	731,247
	4,371,324	3,919,762

SILK.

There has been a great improvement in the market, and an important advance in the prices of most descriptions of Silk. In China Silk the chief demand has been for Tattees, the coarser descriptions having been comparatively neglected. Cantons have participated in the movement during the last few days, but prices have not yet undergone much improvement. Japan Silk has been much sought after, and prices have advanced considerably. The deliveries although better than last month are still on a moderate scale. Deliveries from 1st to 10th inclusive have been China, 918 bales; Canton, 287; Japan, 175; Bengal, 25; total, 1,405 bales.

Messrs. Arles, Dufour, and Co.'s Lyons Circular, dated 6th inst., says:—We confirm our advices of the 8th September. The demand

existing at that time was soon checked by the stoppage of some further embarrassed houses. The Manifest of our President also made buyers hold back. Although business was not active, the market kept firm, prices being considered low. Towards the close of September telegrams were received from Shanghai reporting a rapid rise in prices there, and the probability of a reduced export. This news provoked some activity in China silk, prices of which were much lower than the reported cost in China, and induced many holders to withdraw their stock from the market. Very little silk being offered for sale, the rise on these sorts from the lowest point to this day may be estimated at from 1.3 to 1.4. At the same time some 3,000 to 4,000 pieces of black silk goods were purchased for Paris. Although prices obtained show a considerable loss upon actual rates of raw silk, yet manufacturers, having lightened their stocks and also having received some orders in coloured goods, resumed purchases of European silk. During the last two days business has been active on this class, and prices show already an advance of from 2 to 4 per cent.

LONDON QUOTATIONS.

CHINA.			
Tantice, No. 1	...	22s. 6d.	to 22s. 6d.
" No. 2	...	21s. 6d.	to 22s. 6d.
" No. 3	...	21s. 6d.	to 21s. 6d.
" Blue Elephant	...	19s. 6d.	to 19s. 6d.
Yuenfa and Hainan, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	17s. 6d.	to 19s. 6d.
Thysman Keying, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	17s. 6d.	to 21s. 6d.
Long Keel	...	11s. 6d.	to 11s. 6d.
Canina	...	11s. 6d.	to 17s. 6d.
Chinese Thrown	...	15s. 6d.	to 19s. 6d.
JAPAN.			
Mutash and Sineha, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	18s. 6d.	to 22s. 6d.
Idali, (None)	...	...	...
Sodai, No. 2	...	18s. 6d.	to 19s. 6d.
Osaka, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	17s. 6d.	to 19s. 6d.
Amatski	...	15s. 6d.	to 16s. 6d.
Kukish	...	18s. 6d.	to 21s. 6d.
Hatchegoe	...	14s. 6d.	to 16s. 6d.
Mashira	...	15s. 6d.	to 16s. 6d.
Aecheran	...	14s. 6d.	to 16s. 6d.

COFFEE.—A dull tone has prevailed, the general position not encouraging exporters to operate, and sales have been effected slowly in all descriptions; prices have, therefore, shown a downward tendency. The present stock of Plantation Ceylon is twice the weight of that at the corresponding period last year, and the value of middling only 4s. below, which exerts an unfavourable influence on the market, and the light supplies at public sale have gone off flatly at declining prices, closing, middling at 106s. 6d. to 107s. Business in Native Ceylon has been very small. Closing prices are—Plantation triage 70s. 6d. to 90s., common grey to fine colour small 91s. to 100s., low middling 100s. 6d. to 105s., middling 105s. to 108s., good middling to fine middling colour 108s. 6d. to 113s. 6d., dull to fine bold 112s. to 128s., peppery 108s. to 116s.; fine ordinary Oval Native 87s. 6d. to 88s. per cwt. No sales of other East Indian descriptions have occurred.

CORROX.—Receipts at the American ports have been much below those of the previous year, and the total since the 1st September is less than half the amount of the previous year; these circumstances have imparted more activity, and sales have been on a large scale, the bulk consisting of American, which has advanced 3d. per lb., but with an unfavourable reaction towards the close, a good part of this rise has been lost. Business in East India has been larger than for a long time past, prices being 1d. to 1d. higher than a fortnight ago. The sales for the week are about 22,000 bales. On the spot, Tinnivelly 53d. to 61d., middling fair to good; Western Madras 44d. to 54d., middling to good; Coconada 54d. to 58d., fair to good fair; Salom 51d. to 54d., fair to fully fair; Bengal 43d. to 54d., fair to good; Rangoon 42d. to 6d., good fair; Machine Ginned Broach 61d., good; Dhollera 54d., good fair. For arrival, &c., 24,000 bales; Tinnivelly 53d. to 55d. May to November, good fair; Coconada 5 3-16d. to 54d. July to October, fair red; Bengal 54d., ship named, good (f.g.f.c.); American 61d. to 61 1-16d. September to December, middling (l m. case).

COCONUT OIL. has been in moderate demand, 22 pipes fine Cochin offered by auction were bought in at £13 15s., but 100 tons have been sold privately at £13 10s. Of Ceylon there are buyers for arrival at £39 to £39 5s., but £40 is required. At the close the market is quieter, Cochin is quoted £43 10s., and Ceylon in pipes at £38 15s. to £39.

COIR YARN.—The supplies at auction consisted largely of damaged, but there was a steady demand, and the whole was disposed of at about previous rates, and 42 tons Ceylon low mixed sold at £20 15s. to £23, ordinary to good ordinary £23 10s. to £25 10s., medium to good £26 to £30 10s.

CHINA STRAW PLAIT.—At auction 409 bales met a restricted demand, and barely one-fourth sold, white £9 10s. to £10, with curl edge from £11 15s. to £25, mottled £7 per bale.

CHINA GRASS.—47 bales sold at £59 10s. to £60.

CUTCH.—100 boxes fine Pegu (Engine brand) have been sold at a further advance at 25s. 6d., one lot 25s. 6d. 500 boxes Pegu (Cock brand), have been sold at 23s. per cwt., 110 boxes fine black Pegu (SM and Co.) in papers sold at 29s., being firmer; 40 boxes bought in at 25s.

EBONY.—At auction 69 logs (9 tons) Ceylon partly sold at £23 per ton.

GALLS.—135 cases China offered were chiefly sold, good at 54s. 6d. per cwt. A subsequent offer of 243 cases China sold firmly at 54s. 6d.

GUM COPAL.—9 cases 21 bags Manila sold, dark at 20s., fine pale hard 42s. per cwt.

GAMBIE.—On the spot 140 bags good dark pressed cubes partly sold at 27s. 6d. 40 bags blacky ditto bought in at 29s. For arrival prices are again lower, 100 tons September-October shipment having been sold at 19s. 9d. ex ship, also 50 tons ex ship arrived at 20s.

HEMP.—The market for Manila remains very quiet, but the moderate supply at the periodical auctions, consisting chiefly of damaged, was mostly sold at previous rates. Of 1,053 bales offered about 60 bales sold, brown at £25 15s. to £26, the bulk damaged, first-class at £24 15s. to £25 10s., second Quilic No. 2 at £29 15s., No. 1 at £31 5s., ditto first-class damaged £29 5s. to £30 10s., the remainder sound being bought in at £26 to £28; 73 bales China chiefly sold at £21 10s.

HIDES.—At the periodical public sales East India in the hair were dull of sale at last sales' prices to 3d. per lb. decline, the most difficult to sell being common descriptions. Singapore Ox and Cow sold fairly at late rates. Rangoon ditto were only partly sold. China ditto were in small supply; heavy weights brought an advance of 1d. per lb., but light barely supported the extreme prices previously current. Singapore and Penang Ox and Cow realised light average 6½ to 7½ lbs., seconds 3d. to 9d., thirds 6½d., heavy average 8½ to 9½ lbs., seconds 7d., extra 7d. 18,295 China Ox and Cow offered, 12,773 sold; Light, average 9½ to 11½ lb. 6½d. to 7½d.; heavy, average 14½ to 17½ lb. 6½d. to 7½d.; extra heavy, average 23½ to 21½ lb. 7d. to 7½d.; kips and skins, average 4 to 7½ lb. 7½d. to 9d.; thirds, 5d. to 5½d. per lb. Buffalo: Singapore were in fair supply, were well competed for, and made from last sales' prices to 3d. per lb. advance. Bombay and Kurrahee sold at former rates. Other sorts unchanged. Of 8,191 Penang and Singapore offered 5,655 sold; Penang, slaughtered, good, 1st heavy, average 43½ lb. 6½d.; ditto, inferior, 1st heavy, average 35½ lb. 5½d.; 2nd heavy, average 31½ lb. 5d. Singapore, fair to good, 1st heavy, average 37½ to 38 lb. 5½d. to 5½d.; 2nd heavy, average 25½ to 33½ lb. 5d. to 5½d.; 1st light, average 13½ to 15 lb. 5½d. to 5½d.; light, average 11½ to 15½ lb. 5½d. to 5½d.; fair, ordinary, 2nd heavy, average 29½ lb. 4½d.; light, average 12 lb. 5½d. per lb. 379 Saigon sold; heavy, average 29½ lb. 4½d.; light and calf, average 6½ to 11½ lb. 4½d.; thirds 4½d. per lb. 83 Batavia were withdrawn. 91 Ceylon sold; heavy, average 29½ lb. 4½d. per lb.

PEPPER.—Black has been sold privately at steady rates, about 600 bags have changed hands, Singapore at 3½d., Penang at 3 5-16d. The good supply of 4,263 bags at auction met more demand, and a good part was disposed of at firm rates; of 1,979 bags Singapore 1,900 bags sold, grey at 3½d. to 3½d., good 3½d., two lots fine clean at 3½d.; of 2,284 bags Penang 1,000 bags sold at 3½d. to 3½d., two lots fine clean 3½d. White: With a better demand privately about 700 bags Singapore have been sold at 6½d. to 6½d., and for arrival about 100 tons Singapore, August-September shipment, have been sold at 6 3-16d. There was a good demand at public sale, and prices were 1d. dearer than a week ago; of 658 bags Singapore only 100 bags sold, fair at 6½d., good fair bold 6½d. to 6½d.; 247 bags Penang were all sold at 6d. to 6½d. per lb.

PLUMBAGO.—At auction 391 barrels Ceylon, of old import, were freely offered, and the bulk found buyers at extreme rates for fine lump, of which the bulk consisted, good chips being dearer, fine small and medium to superior bright lump sold at 15s. to 15s. 9d., and one lot fine bright chips at 13s. 6d. per cwt.

RATTANS.—At auction 157 tons met little demand, and only about 40 tons sold, Singapore chiefly at £10 7s. 6d. to £10 10s., the remainder bought in, Singapore at £11 to £25 10s., Penang £26.

RICE.—Floating cargoes have been in demand for the Continent, resulting in considerable sales, and the market exhibits a firmer tone. Fifteen floating cargoes have been sold, viz.:—The Alphota, 1,232 tons Rangoon, off coast, at 10s. 6d. for Bremen. The Jennie S. Barker, 1,542 tons Rangoon, off coast, at 10s. 6d. for Holland. The Carmel, 1,110 tons Ngakyounk Rangoon, off coast, at 10s. 1½d. Continent. The Bacchus, 1,768 tons Basscin, off coast, at 10s. 6d. Continent. The Charles Murdoch, 909 tons Rangoon, May sailing, at 10s. 6½d. open charter. The Jesse Osborne, 1,462 tons Basscin, off coast, at 10s. 6d. for Bremen. The Churchstow, 707 tons Basscin, off coast, at 10s. 6d. Continent, the Joshua, 997 tons Neeracise, off coast, at 10s. Continent. The Guiseppa, 1,041 tons Rangoon, off coast, at 10s. 9d. Continent. The Caraelma, 1,198 tons Rangoon, May sailing, at 10s. 9d. open charter. The Gontfoll, 952 tons Rangoon, May sailing, at 10s. 9d. open charter. The Charles Murdoch, 109 tons Rangoon, May, resold at 10s. 10½d. open charter. The Daporta Padre, 907 tons Rangoon, June sailing, at 11s. open charter. The Lamine, 930 tons Basscin, June, at 11s., the Sven, 1,157 tons Neeracise, off coast, at 10s. 3d. for Bordeaux. On the spot 500 bags Askoolie have been sold at 11s. 3d.

SPICES.—Cinnamon: 210 boxes China, coarse quill, bought in at 7d. Cloves: The good supply of 691 bales Zanzibar went off irregularly, and 600 bales sold at a decline of 1d. to 3d. per lb., fair dark at 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 1½d., good at 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 1½d., a few at 1s. 2d. 22 cases Penang sold at 2s. to 2s. 6½d., chiefly the former price. Ginger: 110 cases Japan offered were bought in at 32s. Macis steady, 2 cases middling Penang sold at 2s. 6d., 1 case Java bought in at 2s., 8 cases low mixed per land carriage sold without reserve at 1s. to 1s. 1d. per lb. Nutmegs: No sales.

SUGAR.—The market has shown a dull tone, and excepting refining West India, which has brought previous rates, sales have been effected with difficulty, and prices are again rather lower, other refining and low brown being 3d. to 6d., and crystallised Demerara also 3d. to 6d. cheaper than last month's rates. The business in East Indian sorts has been as follows:—On the 5th inst. 312 mats soft brown Penang were bought in at 18s. 6d., but afterwards sold at 18s. 6d. On the 8th at auction of 3,423 bags Hainan China offered 400 bags sold, fine brown at 21s. 6d., the remainder ordinary to good were bought in at 19s. 6d. to 20s. 6d., but 1,950 bags afterwards sold at 19s. 6d. to 20s. 6d. per cwt.

SHELLS.—The periodical sales were held on the 8th inst. with the following results:—Mother-o'-Pearl: The auctions were much less extensive, the total amounting to 1,334 cases 157 cases 509 bags and 12 tons, and with a considerable improvement in the demand, nearly the whole was disposed of at a general advance in value. The greater part consisted of Sydney, which sold with spirit at an irregular advance of 10s. to 20s., and in some instances more; Freemantle advanced 15s. to 20s.; Manila sold at steady rates to 10s. advance, Bombay were 10s. 15s., Egyptian 5s. to 10s., and black-edged £2 to £3 per cwt. higher. Of 303 cases Manila offered 290 cases sold, fair bold at £3 to £3 17s. 6d., good bold clean at £9 5s. to £9 7s. 6d.; chicken at £7 2s. 6d. to £5 2s. 6d., defective and pickings 63s. to 83s. Of 17 cases 25 barrels Macassar 25 barrels small sold at £10 7s. 6d. to £10 10s. Tortoise: There was a better demand for West India kinds, and shell sold rather dearer for good, hoof was also rather higher; East India consisted chiefly of common, which went off slowly, 11 cases (1,113 lb.), Bombay and Singapore sold, pickings at 5s. 9d., medium to fair shell 13s. to 14s. 6d. Ear:

The good supply of 416 cases 22 bales Japan met an exceptionally brisk demand, and the whole was disposed of at an extraordinary advance in value; untrimmed low defective at £7 to £19, small and medium more or less defective £30 to £36, medium to bold part defective and small £47 to £59, good ditto £60 rising to £66, trimmed defective £33 to £44, medium and small £78 to £85, medium and bold £92, five cut pieces £250 per ton. *Green Snail*: 1,102 baskets 417 bags 30 cases 31 casks and 4 tons loose met a better demand, and 350 baskets 20 bags 10,000 loose were sold at an advance of ½d. to 1d. for large, but previous rates for small and medium, fair to good bold at 6d. to 7d., medium at 4d. to 4½d., medium and small at 3d. to 3½d., chicken 1½d. to 1¾d. each.

STICKLAC.—At auction 404 cases fresh Siam sold readily at cheaper rates good free but dusty at 49s., rising to 50s. 6d., very fine bold free 51s. to 52s. per cwt.

SAGO.—In auction 772 bags met a good demand, and were nearly all sold at 3d. advance, fair to good fair small at 17s. to 17s. 3d., a few lots good large at 21s. 6d. *Sago Flour*: 201 bags bought in at 20s.

TAPIOCA.—Privately 150 bags Singapore have been sold at 2 11-10d. At public sale of 841 bags Singapore offered only about 200 bags sold, greyish to good at 2½d. to 2¾d., the remainder bought in at 2½d. to 2¾d.; 70 bags low discoloured Penang sold at 2½d. to 2¾d. *Flour*: 512 bags Singapore bought in at 2½d.

TIN.—With renewed activity higher rates have been paid, but attention has been chiefly directed to Australian. The sales of Straits have been small at £68 to £68 10s. on the spot, at £68 for December delivery, and at £69 for October-November shipment. Banca is quoted £70 to £71, Billiton at £68 10s. per ton.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	From	At
Oct. 2	And Tharlem (s.)	—	Batavia	Marseilles
3	Ravenna	Gerholini	Rangoon	Liverpool
4	Parthia	Patterson	Manila	Do.
4	City of Berlin	McLenn	Rangoon	Do.
4	J. C. Potter	McClure	Bassett	Do.
4	Ottawa	Campbell	Manila	Sunderland
4	Toronto	Owen	Bassett	Sully
4	Margaret Falconer	Morley	Java	Gresnock
4	Thorus	Smart	Bassett	Queenstown
4	Luigia V.	Vanzo	Rangoon	Do.
4	Angela P.	Viani	Bassett	Do.
4	Lacy Pope	Gould	Akyab	Do.
5	Sarah and Emma	Prichard	Rangoon	Do.
5	Canute	Evans	Manila	Do.
5	Churchstow	Adams	Bassett	Falmouth
5	Nyssa	Garrick	Hong Kong	London
5	Anglo-Saxon	Harrington	Do.	Do.
6	Picardie	Setten	Manila	Do.
6	St. Joseph	Boucasse	Rangoon	Do.
6	Christina	Jones	Do.	Liverpool
6	Majorian	Simpson	Singapore	Do.
6	Catty Sark	Siptoff	Shanghai	Off Scilly
6	Nestor	V. Rosendaal	Batavia	Offs.
7	Giuseppe Mazzini	Devo	Rangoon	Fair
7	Larry Barry	Clifton	Manila	Antwerp
7	Joshua	Wilkins	Akyab	Queenstown
7	Marin	Gard	Rangoon	London
7	Oliver	Prichard	Bangkok	Do.
7	Orskar	Johannsen	Akyab	Falmouth
8	Jane Harvey	Denson	Do.	Do.
8	Svea	Borin	Do.	Do.
8	Sjofroken	Kerp-rus	Manila	Do.
8	W. H. Harkess	Hutchins	Rangoon	Do.
8	Robert	—	Batavia, for Rotterdam	Passed Falmouth
8	Della	—	Tedlo	Passed Lof Wight
8	Fery Cross	Showman	Nagasaki	London
9	Azel	Sevenson	Rangoon	Falmouth
9	Al-mjee Odowjee	Forrest	Rangoon for Liverpool	Queenstown
9	Penrhyn	Gratham	Do.	Liverpool
9	Patricia	Ditchburn	Do.	Do.
9	Penryn	Do.	Do.	Do.
9	Mentor (s.)	White	Hong Kong	Do.
9	Tak-nago Maru	Young	Yokohama	London
9	Surrey	James	Manila	Do.
9	Bertha	Perry	Bassett	Do.
9	Sudoo	Allen	Ho Ho	Boston

DEPARTURES.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	For	From
Oct. 6	Forest Belle	Noyes	Hong Kong	Cardiff
6	Maria S.	Laibetta	Singapore	Do.
6	Elizabeth	Olden	Bangkok	Newcastle
6	Perona (s.)	Schultz	Shanghai	Hamburg
6	Empire	Luckie	Hong Kong	Newport
6	Over Moylet	Kolter	Penang	Do.
6	Bertha (s.)	Langley	Penang, &c.	London
6	Perona (s.)	—	Manila	Glasgow
6	Ferdinand and Louis Otto	—	Java	Newcastle
6	Don an Supha	Songdrager	Batavia	Yamden
6	Hampshire	Long	Singapore	Sunderland
6	Harfruen	Agenoff	Batavia	Cardiff
6	Costna	Avey	Do.	Do.
7	Zs Gerusters	Bas	Do.	Do.
7	Sine of Alabama (s.)	Ritchie	Singapore, &c.	London
8	Hampton (s.)	—	Batavia	Helvoet
8	Osba	Hall	Shanghai	Liverpool
8	Eleano	Brown	Hong Kong	Penarth
8	Kaiser	Rause	Do.	Do.
9	Orestes (s.)	Webster	Penang	Liverpool

See Shipping Postscript and Correspondence Letters.

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.

Date.	Steamer.	From	For
Oct. 6	Glenhol	London	Singapore, &c.
9	Prins van Oranje	Southampton	Batavia

SPOKEN.

OSCAR, Akyab to Falmouth, Sept. 7, 23 N., 35 W.
NUOVO SAVONA, Bassett to Falmouth, Sept. 22, 49 N., 31 W.
J.G.L.S. (Amer. ship), Bassett to Cork, Sept. 6, 29 N., 37 W.
CHARLES MURDOCH, Rangoon to Falmouth, Aug. 1, 36 S., 20 E.
GLOBE, Antwerp to Hong Kong, Aug. 29, 9 N., 24 W.
EVELYN, London to Japan, Aug. 31, 13 N., 26 W.
CHANARAI, Rangoon to Falmouth, Aug. 18, 13 S., 9 W.
EAGLE, Rangoon to Liverpool, Sept. 10, 33 N., 39 W.

CASUALTIES.

LONDON.—Oct. 8, the State of Alabama (str.), bound to Singapore, &c., while in a fog below Gravesend, collided with the steamer Countess, and received some damage; she has put back for repairs, which are trifling, and expected to be completed in three or four days.

GIBRALTAR.—Oct. 10, the Herzogin Anna is reloading her cargo.

SAMARANG.—Oct. 9, the Stad Middleburg (str.), from Sourabaya to Holland, with coffee, has struck on the rocks. She is leaking, and will have to discharge cargo and dock for repairs.

CAPE TOWN.—Oct. 12, the Hannah and Mury, from Hong Kong to Falmouth, put into Simon's Bay Sept. 22, with damage to bulwarks, galley swept overboard, captain dead, and first officer in charge.

HONG KONG.—Oct. 14, the Mersa (British barque) thence to Newchwang in ballast, has been totally lost off Amoy.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CADIZ.—Sailed, Sept. 30, Victoria (str.), Liverpool for Manila. Arrived, Oct. 4, Cadiz (str.), from Manila.

GIBRALTAR.—Passed, Oct. 8, Glenroy (str.), China for New York.

NAPLES.—Sailed, Oct. 5, Comet (str.), for Batavia.

MALTA.—Arrived and sailed, Oct. 6-8, Celebes, No. 5 (steam dredger), Glasgow to Batavia. Passed, Oct. 10, Bonledi (str.), Hong Kong for London; Drenthe (str.), Batavia for Flushing.

BERMUDA.—Sailed, Sept. 9, The Frederick, for Java.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—STEAMERS VIA SUEZ CANAL.—For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Gordon Castle, Glengyle, Cyphrenea, Glenfalloch. For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Altona. For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, Yokohama, and Hiogo: Minerva, Galley of Lorne.

SAILING VESSELS.—For Shanghai: Fantasia. For Hong Kong: Johann Smith, Lodora. For Yokohama: Devana, Laira. For Batavia, &c.: M. A. Dixon. For Singapore: Star of the East. For Penang: Kinfauns Castle.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Menelaus (s.), Achilles (s.). For Batavia, &c.: Maggie Douglas.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth.

Rates for steamers and sailing ships on the berth have a downward tendency. The berth is fully supplied. Homeward chartering is quite at a standstill, and spot quotations nominal.

GENERAL SHIPPING NEWS.

THE NEW DOCK AT FLEETWOOD.—The new dock, constructed under the direction of Sir John Hawkshaw at Fleetwood, has been opened amid great rejoicings. It has cost £300,000, and covers, with the quays, a total area of sixty-five acres, the dock itself being 1,000ft. long and 40ft. broad. Beyond it there is a timber pond fifteen acres in extent. The town was decorated with a profusion of flags, and the shipping and steamers in dock were gay with bunting. The timber-laden ship Armstrong was towed in dock by a steamer, amidst cheers and salutes, and the chairman of the Lancashire and York-hire Company declared that the dock henceforth will be called the Wyre Dock, and will be open to the commerce of the world. Subsequently the directors and shareholders, with some leading North of England merchants, were entertained at a banquet. Sir John Hawkshaw, Lord Houghton, and others being amongst the speakers.

A COLLISION has occurred off the Fastnet, between the Bristol steamer Consett, Captain Pringle, from Antwerp, for Montreal, in ballast, and the Liverpool ship Jessor, in which the latter was so seriously damaged that she sank. Fortunately the crew and passengers, sixty-four all told, of the vessel managed to get on board the steamer, which landed them at Queenstown. The Jessor was a fine iron ship of 1,701 tons, classed A 1, belonging to Mr. W. Rime, of Liverpool.

AN UNSEAWORTHY SHIP.—At the Colchester County Court an action has been brought by the Board of Trade to recover £11 5s. for expenses incurred in surveying the Polypheny, of Colchester, then in the port of Shields, which was condemned as unseaworthy and detained. The defence was that the ownership of the vessel had passed from defendant at the time of the detention, and that a copy of the surveyor's report had not been served upon him. A verdict was given for the Board of Trade, with costs.

LOSS OF A MESSAGERIES MARITIMES STEAMER.—The Messageries Maritimes mail steamship Parana has been totally lost off Bahia. The passengers and mails have been saved.

THE Kiya Shaw, China trader, has been sold by Charles Shaw and Co. for £4,750; purchasers, Messrs. John Willis and Son.

RATES OF FREIGHT.

The tonnage loading on the berth for India, China, and the Cape of Good Hope amounts to 60,786 tons, and for Australia and New Zealand to 51,567 tons.

Outward freights for the berths from London to Australia and New Zealand continue steady, and the amount of disengaged tonnage seeking employment in that direction is not abundant. For Cape ports tonnage is in fair request at about rates last quoted. Coal freights to the Cape, India, and China are weaker. Homeward business, both for steamers or sailers, is almost nil.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION

The Court of Directors do hereby give notice that a GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Corporation in Threadneedle-street, in the City of London, on THURSDAY, the 15th day of October next, at One o'clock p.m. precisely, at which will be declared the interim dividend for the half-year ended 30th June, 1877.

PATRICK CAMPBELL, Chief Manager.

London, 14th September, 1877.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 17th day of October to the 1st day of November inclusive.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, August 30, 1851.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, £1,500,000.

RESERVED FUNDS, £500,000.

The Corporation grant Drafts, and negotiate or collect Bills payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Cape Town, Colombo, Foochow, Hong Kong, Kanton, Madras, Mauritius, Melbourne, Point de Galle, Port Elizabeth, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, and Yokohama on terms which may be ascertained at their Office. They also issue Circular Notes for the use of Travellers by the Overland Route.

They undertake the agency of parties connected with India and the Colonies, the purchase and sale of British and Foreign Securities, the custody of the same, the receipt of Interest, Dividends, Pay, Pensions, &c., and the effecting of remittances between the above-named Dependencies.

They also receive deposits of £100 and upwards for fixed periods, the terms of which may be ascertained on application at their Office.

Office hours, Ten to Three; Saturdays, Ten to Two Threadneedle-street London, 1877.

HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Capital, \$5,000,000. All paid up.

Reserve Fund, \$650,000.

COURT OF DIRECTORS AND HEAD OFFICE IN HONG KONG.

LONDON COMMITTEE.

Albert Deacon, Esq. (of Messrs. M. and A. Deacon).

E. F. Duncanson, Esq. (of Messrs. T. A. Gibb and Co.).

A. H. Phillips, Esq. (of Messrs. Phillips and Co.).

MANAGERS—David McLean, 31, Lombard-street, E.C.

BARBERS—London and County Bank.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Hong Kong, Hankow, Saigon, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Foochow, Hingpo, Bombay, Ningpo, Manila, Calcutta.

The Corporation grant Drafts upon, and negotiate or collect Bills at any of the Branches or Agencies; also receive Deposits for fixed periods, at rates varying with the period of deposit.

The Corporation issue Letters of Credit, negotiable in the principal cities of Europe, Asia, and America, for the use of travellers.

They open Current Accounts for the convenience of constituents returning from China, Japan, and India.

They also undertake the Agency of constituents connected with the East, and receive for safe custody Indian and other Government Securities, drawing Interest and Dividends on the same as they fall due.

Dividends are payable in London on receipt of the advice of meeting in Hong Kong, held in February and August.

COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

Incorporated by National Decrees of 7th and 8th of March, 1845, and by Imperial Decree of 20th July, 18th and 31st December, 1868.

Recognized by the International Convention of 30th April, 1863.

Capital, fully paid up... £3,000,000

Reserved fund... 600,000

£4,000,000

CHIEF MANAGER.—MONSIEUR G. GIROD.

HEAD OFFICE.—14, Rue Bergère, Paris.

LONDON OFFICE.—144, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

LONDON BANKERS.—The Bank of England, the Union Bank of London.

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The Bank grants Drafts and Letters of Credit on all their Branches and Correspondents on the Continent and the East, and transacts Banking business of every description.

THE AGRA BANK (Limited).

Established in 1833.

CAPITAL, £1,000,000.

Head Office.—NICHOLAS-LANE, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON.

Branches in Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Karachi, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong.

Current accounts are kept at the Head Office on the terms customary with London Bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received for fixed periods on the following terms, viz.:—At 5 per cent. per annum, subject to twelve months' notice of withdrawal. For shorter periods deposits will be received on terms to be agreed upon. Bills issued at the current exchange of the day on any of the Branches of the Bank free of extra charge; and approved bills purchased or sent for collection. Sales and purchases effected in British and Foreign Securities, in East India Stock and Loans, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Interest drawn, and Army, Navy, and Civil Pay and Pensions realised. Every other description of Banker Business and Money Agency, British and Indian, transacted.

J. THOMSON, Chairman.

BANK OF CALIFORNIA.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION are prepared to ISSUE DRAFTS at sight on the Bank of California, San Francisco, the terms for which may be ascertained at their Office.

Threadneedle-street 1877.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

THE OFFICES of the COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS will be REMOVED to 52, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C., on and after Monday, October 8. Temporarily all business connected with the Conversion of the Egyptian Debt will be conducted at 115, Leadenhall-street as formerly.

London, October 6, 1877. H. DUVAL, Manager.

NOTICE.

REFERRING to the Circular of the dissolved firm of MACKAY, BOONKAMP & Co., I hereby beg to inform you that the Agency and Commission Business carried by the undersigned prior to the year 1868 on his own account and his own name—and since 1868 carried under the above-named firm—will be continued from this date on his own account under the firm of MACKAY & Co.

Thanking you for past favours, and hoping that you will favour my new firm with a continuance of your confidence, I request your attention to my signature at foot, and remain, dear Sir, yours very respectfully,

Amsterdam, Oct. 15, 1877. E. C. MACKAY.

WE beg to inform you that we have this day given power to sign our firm, per procuration, to Mr. D. H. DES BOUVRIER. Requesting your attention to Mr. D. H. DES BOUVRIER'S signature at foot, we remain, dear Sir, yours very respectfully,

MACKAY & Co.



GILLET & BLAND, Manufacturers by improved Steam Machinery of CATHEDRAL, CHURCH, STABLE, SCHOOL, and HOUSE

CLOCKS

to Her Majesty's Government; also Patent CARILLON or CHIMING MACHINES, on their further improved principles (of which they are the sole inventors), to play any number of Tunes on any number of Bells. Makers of the Carillon Machine at Worcester Cathedral; Carillon and Great Chime Clocks for Bradford, Rochdale, and Winchester Town Halls; Manchester and Leading Town Halls (in hand); St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin; St. Elizabeth (in hand); St. Stephen's, Hampstead; and for 400 churches, &c.; also for Earl Beauchamp, Duke of Somerset, Lord Kinnaird, Sir John Hawkshaw, Earl of Mansfield, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, for Windsor Castle (in hand), &c.

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NOTICE TO SHIPPERS.

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A LADY (widow of a Vice-Consul in China) would like the charge of some children, whose parents reside in China or India, to bring up and educate with her own.

For particulars, address C., London and China Express Office, 79, Gracechurch-street, London, E.C.

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IS AN

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dated 15th May, 1872, from an old inhabitant

of Hingham, near Westminster, Wilts:—

"I must also beg to say that your Pills are

an excellent medicine for me, and I certainly

do enjoy good health, sound sleep, and a good

appetite; this is owing to taking your Pills.

on 78 years old.

"Remaining, Gentlemen, yours very respectfully,

"L. S.

To the Proprietors of

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**CHINA INVESTMENT AGENCY.**

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Containing Signed Reviews, Correspondence, Notices of Pictures, Art Sales, the Stage, Music, &c., &c.

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Edited by A. VON SCALA.

Published monthly. Annual subscription, 48. 50kr for the German Empire, 11 marks; for other foreign countries, 15 francs.

The "Oesterreichische Monatschrift für den Orient" has the advantage of the co-operation of the most distinguished savants, and has attracted the greatest interest and influence in all directions. The circulation is increasing daily, and it is steadily gaining in popularity. Subscriptions for 1877 should be sent in early, as may not be possible later to obtain complete files.

T. W. JACKSON, COMMISSION AGENT SAN FRANCISCO

LIST OF AGENTS.

THE NINETEENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced the 2nd day of January 1877. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines, an 8d. for each additional line.

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" ...	WILLIAM WILKINS (for Advertisements).
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It saves labour in drilling holes, as a less number of holes are needed.

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OVERLAND ROUTE
via SUEZ CANAL.—The PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY'S STEAMERS sail from Southampton, via the Suez Canal, as follows:—

...	...	H.P.	Port	...
*Pekin ... Oct. 18	6003.777	Mediterranean	Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, Japan, and Australia.	
Mirzapore Oct. 25	6003.768	Mediterranean	Aden, Bombay	
*Malwa ... Nov. 1	4503.933	Mediterranean	Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, Japan, & Queensland.	
Mongolia Nov. 8	5303.933	Mediterranean	Aden, Bombay.	
*Hindustan Nov. 15	6003.188	Mediterranean	Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, Japan, and Australia.	
Indus ... Nov. 22	6003.470	Mediterranean	Aden, Bombay.	
Peshawar Nov. 29	6003.781	Mediterranean	Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, Japan, & Queensland.	

* Taking passengers for Bombay also by branch steamer from Suez.



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via ITALY.—The PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY now book passengers to Colombo at the same rates as to India. Apply at 122, Leadenhall-street, or 25, Cockspur-street.

From Venice to Alexandria ... Every Friday.
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via MARSEILLES and SUEZ CANAL.—Under contract with the French Government for the conveyance of the Mail to INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN, BATAVIA, REUNION, and MAURITIUS.

The MESSAGERIES MARITIMES COMPANY will despatch their steamers from MARSEILLES via the Suez Canal every alternate Sunday at 10 A.M., beginning on Sunday, the 9th Sept.

* Passengers eastward of Suez securing their berths in London are entitled to the free conveyance of their luggage to Marseilles, as explained in the Company's handbook.

For Passage, Rates of Freight, and Particulars see the Company's handbook, and apply to the Company's London Agency, 97, Cannon-street, E.C.; or at the West End Sub-Agency, 61, Pall-mall, S.W.



TRIESTE ROUTE FOR INDIA, ALEXANDRIA, CONSTANTINOPLE, SMYRNA, PORTS in the LEVANT, &c.—The AUSTRALIAN LLOYD'S STEAMERS leave Trieste weekly.

For dates of sailing and all particulars apply at the office, 122, Leadenhall-street, or at No. 14, Waterloo-place, London, S.W., and 4, Oriental-buildings, Southampton.

HICKIE, BURNAN and Co., Agents.



FOR Tunjong Pagar, SINGAPORE.—The following VESSELS are now on the berth in LONDON.

Tons.	Brokers.	To Sail.
Glengyle, s.s. ... 1,576	Macgregor, Gow, & Co.	Oct. 19
Malabar, s.s. ... 733	James & Joyner.	Oct. 25
Star of the East ... 1,133	Wright & Co.	Oct. 26
Lorne, s.s. ... 1,133	Guthrie & Co.	Oct. —
Cypriote, s.s. ... 1,172	Thos Skerrett & Co.	Oct. —
Glenafloch, s.s. ... 2,126	Macgregor, Gow, & Co.	Oct. —
LIVERPOOL.		
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The School is not intended for merely secular instruction; the spiritual interests of the boys are carefully attended to; they are diligently instructed in the truths of Holy Scripture, their conduct constantly watched over, and the whole of their school life pervaded by Christian influence. The Committee are aware that the character of education in general has been much improved in recent years, and being anxious not to fall behind any similar institution, have tested the progress of the boys periodically by Cambridge University Examiners and otherwise, with very satisfactory results. They desire to stimulate the diligence of the boys by offering for competition at least one scholarship—or by what shall be equivalent to a scholarship. Some of the lads show excellent capacities, which would justify the highest opportunities of culture.

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The Committee respectfully and urgently solicit the annual assistance of all friends who are able to help the Institution by their contributions. They cordially thank the liberal contributors to the Special Fund above referred to, and beg again to remind them and other friends of the School that it is entirely dependent upon the payments of the parents, and upon voluntary subscriptions, there being no endowment of any kind, or any other source of income, with the exception of an Annual Donation from the executors of a deceased friend to which, however, there is no legal claim.

Subscriptions received by Dr. Mallens, London Missionary Society; Rev. Joseph Benley, 13, Paragon, Blackheath; A. H. Bateman, Esq., Devonshire House, Blackheath, S.E.; or by the Agents of this Paper at the ports of the Far East.

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Glenegles	100 A1	2,400	530	To follow
Glenarney	100 A1	2,106	330	To follow
Glenearn	100 A1	2,120	330	To follow
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Shanghai	Rutlandshire	A1	1,057	Nov. 20	Liverpool

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THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS AND THE CHINESE LEGATION.

The following Address and Reply, which have passed between the Society of Friends and the Chinese Minister, have been forwarded to us for publication:—

FROM A MEETING REPRESENTING THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS IN GREAT BRITAIN, HELD IN LONDON THE 7TH OF THE 9TH MONTH, CALLED SEPTEMBER, 1877.

To Kuo-ta-jin, Ambassador Extraordinary from the Emperor of China.

We approach the Ambassador with the respect due to his high position, and we rejoice at the evidence afforded by his presence in this land of the existence of those friendly relations which we trust may ever subsist between our two great countries.

As the followers of the Lord Jesus Christ it is the joy of our hearts to be made partakers of that love in which the God and Father of all sent his son to be the Saviour of the world. The Lord Jesus Christ gave Himself a ransom not for one nation only, but for all men, expressing in that glorious act the great truth that all are alike precious in the sight of God, who hath made of one blood all nations, and who would have them all to live in love as brethren, the children of the same Almighty Father.

War and bloodshed must not be charged upon Christianity, but upon the evil passions of men; they are utterly opposed to the precepts and example of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and must cease whenever men and nations come fully to believe and obey Him.

Our religious society has always accepted these great principles of Christian faith, and felt it a duty to act upon them. It is a grief to us whenever anything occurs to interrupt peace and goodwill between nations; and it is our earnest desire that our countrymen everywhere may increasingly act out these principles both in their public and private conduct, and in all their trade and intercourse with other nations.

Fraud and falsehood, no less than violence, are forbidden by Him who commanded his followers to love their enemies, and to act towards others as they would desire others to act towards themselves. We believe that it is not the will of our Father in heaven that one man should have property in his fellow man; we look with abhorrence upon slavery in all its forms, and pray that the day may be hastened when this fearful scourge with all its attendant evils may be driven from the earth.

We have deplored the traffic in opium, originating in contravention of the laws of China, and shall rejoice to do our part in every effort to discourage it between our two countries, and at the same time to promote the increase upon right principles of a sound and beneficial commerce.

We rejoice to learn that tranquillity is now restored to the Empire of China. We pray the Almighty Ruler of the universe that it may please Him to bless the inhabitants of our two countries, and so to guide the counsels of their rulers that the peace which now so happily unites them may continue upon an enduring basis, and that our own beloved country in her intercourse with China may more and more manifest the genuine fruits of Christianity in that righteousness which alone truly exalteth a nation.—Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting by

GEORGE STACEY GIBSON, Clerk.

To George Stacey Gibson, Esq., and others representing the Society of Friends of Great Britain and Ireland.

It is now some time since I first heard of the existence of your Society, which has for its object the establishment of universal peace and the amelioration of mankind; this subject has my entire sympathy; it affords me, therefore, great pleasure to meet you to-day, and to listen to the expression of your wishes. Of the friendly intercourse between our two nations, and the putting down of the opium traffic of which you speak, it is my duty to take cognisance.

In this connection, I think it right to refer to the Chefoo Convention concluded last year. The satisfactory settlement then arrived at was owing to Sir Thomas Wade's policy of effecting an equitable compromise. I now hear, however, that the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce contemplate petitioning the Foreign-office, and protesting against the ratification of the Convention; thus further discussion on the subject may become inevitable.

It is argued by foreign merchants that the difficulty experienced in disposing of foreign goods is owing to the heaviness of the import and *likin* duties. In my opinion, however, this statement is by no means borne out by the facts of the case; in the first place, of late years new markets have been opened, trade has been distributed, and profits have been curtailed; in the next place, opium smoking is becoming more prevalent among the Chinese, entailing poverty and starvation, both by cold and hunger; the ability, therefore, to purchase foreign goods is small; take, for instance, cotton piece goods; formerly a Chinese foot of this fabric cost from eighty to one hundred copper cash; now it costs but forty or fifty cash, or less by one-half than it did some twenty years ago; thus the additional levy of the *likin* duty has not caused a rise in the price, which, on the other hand, has been considerably lowered. The real cause, therefore, why trade is bad and profits unremunerative must be sought for in the fact that, before opium-smoking was indulged in, families whose incomes were ample to provide them with food and clothing have since the contraction of the habit found these incomes barely sufficient for its indulgence; raggedness and poverty increase day by day, and the purchase of the necessities of life becomes impossible; thus the evils attendant on opium smoking are greatly felt in China. Even, therefore, if China did not insist upon levying both the import and *likin* duties the resources of the people would still be inadequate for the extensive purchase of foreign goods. The principle of trade is, that goods purchased at a high price must also be disposed of at a high price; and that goods purchased at a low price must be disposed of at a low price. As the Chinese say, "When the water

risers the boats are lifted." Thus there are no advantages or disadvantages on either side, and the impoverishment of the people is the sole cause of the accumulation of unsold goods.

The total annual import duties collected on opium in China amount to but £800,000 or £700,000, together with the *likin* duties, £1,000,000. The sum is not great, and its collection cannot have much effect on foreign trade. The Chinese Government now contemplate taking measures to prohibit opium smoking in China; thus it may be hoped that the use of the drug will gradually diminish.

For two years India has suffered much from famine, and the people from want of food; this want is, in a great measure, owing to so much land being devoted to the cultivation of the poppy, by which that of cereals for the sustenance of the people is curtailed; when, therefore, there is a drought, the people, unless they have accumulated stores, cannot tide over the misfortune. Thus the evil of opium, by the substitution of the poppy for the more legitimate tillage of the corn fields, is seen to be greatly felt even in India. If, therefore, India could be persuaded to grow cereals instead of opium, a great step would be gained towards the future support (in case of similar calamities) of the people.

The Chefoo Convention has now been in existence for over a year; both China and foreign nations are fully aware of its stipulations, which have on neither side given rise to suspicion; it is, therefore, desirable to dissuade the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce from protesting against its ratification, as by such ratification many interests will be secured.

The forms and ceremonies of religions are different, but the principle of doing good upon which they are based is the same; to treat others as one would wish to be treated, to be loyal, and to exercise forbearance are the guiding principles of all religions. I shall ever have before me the fundamental principle of your Society, which consists in treating all men with the same good will, regardless of race or creed.

KUO SUNG-TAO.

London, Sept. 21.

The *Daily News* has the following:—We publish the reply of the Chinese Minister to a memorial from the Society of Friends, by a deputation of whom it was formerly presented to his Excellency. The interview was a private one, and no portion of the long and animated conversation which, we understand, took place between the Envoy and the deputation has been allowed to meet the public eye. Kuo made, as our readers have seen, a careful reply in writing to the address; and with the instinct of a practical politician he seized upon that passage in it which more immediately affects the interests of his own country. A few days ago we called attention to the fact that the Chefoo Convention, although concluded last year, has not yet been ratified. There is reason to believe that the ratification of the treaty has been delayed by the objections which have been urged against it by the representatives of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, who are specially apprehensive lest the new arrangements for the levy of *likin*—as the inland duties upon imports are called—should prove injurious to foreign commerce in general, and to the Indian opium trade in particular. It is to this point that Kuo addressed himself with great earnestness; and his remarks on this subject must be regarded as an appeal both to our Foreign-office and to public opinion in this country to support Sir Thomas Wade's Convention as "an equitable compromise" between the two Governments. He insists that foreign trade has not suffered, and is not likely to suffer, from the Chinese fiscal system, the revenue derived from the *likin* duties being in amount extremely moderate; but urges that the real cause of the inability of the Chinese to purchase foreign goods is the poverty and ruin caused by opium-smoking. It is probable that the Chinese Minister does not allow sufficiently for the prohibitive effect of the duties; and we hope he exaggerates the widespread distress springing from the use of opium. The Chinese Government contemplates taking measures to prohibit opium-smoking in China. How far preventive legislation will succeed in China, we have no means of judging. It is hard to prevent people from getting what they want to have, however undesirable. Everybody must wish that the use of this noxious drug may be discouraged; but a moral reform need not interfere with the establishment of a sounder fiscal system in China.

LIKIN AND THE CHEFOO CONVENTION.

Upon this subject Mr. F. S. Turner, Secretary to the Anglo-Oriental Society for the Suppression of the Opium Trade, has addressed the subjoined letter to the *Daily News*:—

As the Chinese term *likin*, must be strange to most of your readers, perhaps you will find space to insert a few lines on the meaning of the term, and its history in connection with the still unratified Convention. *Li* means the thousandth part of the *liang*, or Chinese ounce (translated by us "tael"), in terms of which all accounts in China are kept. *Kin* means money. To take *likin*, or thousandths money, is therefore exactly equivalent to our levying a percentage. Technically, however, *likin* was originally used to denote an extraordinary percentage levied upon mercantile transactions to meet exceptional necessities of the Government in time of war or rebellion. Its exceptional character, however, is not unlike that of our income tax, for since foreign merchants in China first became acquainted with it, it has been a constant tax, and there is no prospect of its ever being removed. *Likin* is not mentioned in the Treaty of Tientsin, Art XXVIII., which recognises the right of the Chinese to levy transit duty, and provides for the foreign merchant the option of commutating all such dues for a single payment of two and a half per cent. *ad valorem*. In consequence of this omission, some foreign merchants protested against the payment of *likin* altogether, but our Government has never adopted this objection, Sir Frederick Bruce, Sir Rutherford Alcock, Sir Thomas Wade, and, I believe, all impartial persons, fully admitting: a Chinese right to levy inland dues under any name

they please, of course subject to the clause about commutation for 2½ per cent. But a more serious objection was raised against the levying of *likin* within the treaty ports; the foreign merchant asserting that all such dues were only leviable at the first inland barrier after leaving the port. To add to the difficulty the treaty ports have no defined boundary. In consequence of this state of things continual attempts to evade payment of *likin*, especially upon opium, were made, and a condition of trade ensued which revolved on a smaller scale the old abominations of opium smuggling. The opium on arrival at Shanghai was sold to and landed by foreign merchants in comparatively a small way of business. Parsees and others, who brought the opium chests into their offices, opened them and sold to Chinese purchasers. These purchasers would remove the balls of opium, frequently at night, in small parcels, and thus evade the *likin*. Sometimes foreigners were employed by the Chinese to convey opium away in sedan chairs, and the attempt of the Chinese Custom-house officers to arrest them and confiscate the opium was met by the assertion that the drug was still foreign property, and that the foreign merchant was not liable to pay this duty. Sir E. Hornby, late Judge of the Supreme Court at Shanghai, pronounced a decision to this effect. The Chinese, however, never admitted the competency of the Court nor the validity of the decision. It is evident that here we have a most unseemly state of trade; one calculated to foster smuggling, and to breed ill-will between the two Governments. Sir Thomas Wade seized the occasion to put an end to this state of things. First, he conceded to the Chinese that the treaty port, within the limits of which only import duty and not *likin* should be leviable, should be defined as the area rented by foreigners, or, as they are called, the foreign "concessions." Next, in regard to opium, he abandoned exemption of *likin* altogether, and arranged that the drug should be kept in bonded warehouses under the surveillance of the Customs until the Chinese purchaser had paid the *likin* upon it. As regards the actual money difference these new regulations will make to trade, they cannot, on the supposition that the trade is honestly conducted, amount to more than a small fraction of the whole duties—viz., that portion paid by consumers living within the treaty ports. The great gain to China will be the prevention of smuggling, which, by the Chefoo Convention, will be rendered more difficult in the case of all goods, and apparently impossible in the case of opium. Great Britain compels China to admit Indian Opium; if she refuses this concession to China, then, in fact, she becomes the ally of the native smugglers. Do we mean to revive the flagitious policy which led to the opium war? These are no question of prohibitive duties before us. While India gets £90 per chest of opium in Calcutta, and £80 in Bombay, and China on her side is only levying about £10 per chest, it is not for Great Britain to object to prohibitive duties; but if China desires to increase her taxation upon opium she has the full right to do so already, and the Chefoo Convention does not touch this right one way or the other. One word more. The negotiations between Sir Thomas Wade and the Chinese Government extended over eighteen months. The proposals came from Sir T. Wade, in particular the proposal to deal with the *likin* difficulty came from him, and he insisted upon the agreement being accepted or rejected by the Chinese "as a whole." These statements are taken from his own report, published in the Blue-book—see pages, 114, 116, 119, 128, 130, and especially 136. The agreement was accepted, "as a whole" by Li Hung-chang and his Government, the threat of war being in the background. Sir Thomas Wade took care to secure all the advantages conceded to him by the clever stipulation that they should be granted without waiting for ratification—see his despatch to Lord Derby covering the Convention (page 63), and the Convention itself. If after this the British Government repudiates the counter-concessions made to China, i.e., these two new arrangements about *likin*, then good-bye to our reputation for good faith in China. It did not stand high in Commissioner Lin's days, but one would fain hope it has improved since. But if we refuse to carry out this concession about opium lest we should enable the Chinese to checkmate the opium smugglers, it is not China only which will accuse us of sharp practice.

TEA CULTIVATION IN AMERICA.

The *Globe* says:—Brother Jonathan is beginning to turn his attention seriously to the cultivation of tea in his own domain. He has plenty of ground to spare for the purpose, and the practicability of it has long been put beyond question by the actual growth of tea on a small scale in various parts of the States. In the Southern and Western portions of the Continent it is said that the tea plant thrives quite as well as on the other side of the Pacific, and perhaps if soil and climate were the only consideration to be taken into account, we might soon have Jonathan as vigorously engaged in the growing of tea as he is commonly supposed generally to be in the concoction of spruces and juleps. Almost anywhere within 45 degs. of the Equator this hardy shrub may be grown in the open air and will thrive, and there can be little doubt that the continents of North and South America both present vast tracts of land on which the tea plant might be largely cultivated. The one difficulty to be overcome is that of obtaining labour sufficiently cheap to make it worth while to compete with the Chinese market, and this difficulty China herself seems to be very likely to overcome for her neighbours. As everybody is aware, the exportation of Celestials has long been rather a nuisance to various quarters of the world, and to the western portion of the United States in particular. Possibly it has occurred to Yankee enterprise to retaliate upon John Chinaman after the manner in which the publicans here turned the tables on the grocers by setting up a Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association when the grocers took to selling wines and spirits. To set up the plantations, and draw off the Celestials to work upon them as fast as they are imported, would certainly be one way of solving the formidable coolie difficulty in California, and might ultimately suggest to China the advisability of putting some sort of check on her emigration.

GERMANY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HAMBURG, OCT. 9.

The weather during the past week has been bright, but for the season cool. The harvest has made fair progress, but the still-standing part of the crop will prove a failure, the only thing being spoken of in a satisfactory tone being the potato crop, which, in spite of the diseases prevailing during the summer and autumn, will show a good result.

The Emperor will return to Berlin on the 20th of this month, and the next day the members of the Prussian Diet will reassemble. The opening of the Landtag by his Majesty in person is considered probable. Prince Bismarck left his estate at Friedrichsruh near Hamburg, and arrived in the metropolis on the 3rd inst. On the 6th he presided at a Council of the Ministers, and yesterday he left the capital for Varzin. At the same moment a rumour has been set afloat according to which the Prussian Minister of Commerce, Herr von Achenbach, has been dismissed, but whether this is true remains to be seen. In the meanwhile Herr von Achenbach has gone on a trip through Schleswig-Holstein, and has visited en route the Exhibition of German coal, which is being held here, as I reported in my last letter. Yesterday the Congress of Social Politicians was opened at Berlin, and will last for three days. On the second-day the commercial treaty between Austria and Germany is one of the topics of discussion.

The Hamburg-American Packet Company held an extraordinary meeting of shareholders on the 6th inst., in order to resolve on a reduction of the paid-up capital of twenty-two-and-a-half millions of marks to fifteen millions. The proposal of the directors was passed, and now we must wait for the resolution of a second meeting, called for the 20th of this month, in order to state that resolution as a legal one. As for the East Siberian Trading Company I am able to report some further details. The creditors of that establishment granted a three years' moratorium, as the technical expression is of one year, which has further to run. All creditors will probably receive 30 per cent., but the capital paid up by the shareholders is considered as a total loss.

With reference to the trade between Europe and Northern Siberia, by way of the Arctic Sea, during the present year we learn that this new route has been already used by three vessels. The steamer *Frazer*, 150 T.R., Captain Dallmann, left Bremerhaven on the 24th July, loaded with tobacco, sugar, and machineries. On the 9th August, after taking in coals, she proceeded from Hammerfest, reached the entrance of the Jenissei river on the 21st August, and stayed three weeks in the river, leaving again on the 17th September. Already on the 24th Sept. the steamer again arrived at Hammerfest, thus having used only ten days through the Arctic Sea and the Straits of Matoskin Skar; this steamer was chartered by Mr. Sibirjakow, a member of the Geographical Society at Bremen. A far more astonishing voyage was made by the little steamer *Luise*, 50 T.R.; this vessel, under command of Captain Dahl, was despatched, 18th July, from Hull to the river Ob (North-Western Siberia), loaded with iron and olive-oil. Hitherto, never a vessel had ventured to enter into the latter river, but the *Luise* not only happily got through all the banks and narrows of its entrance, but even went up fully 1,200 miles to the interior of Siberia, and on the 20th September the captain was able to telegraph his arrival at Tobolsk, the capital of Siberia. This voyage, an undertaking of a merchant, Mr. Trapeznikow at Moscow, has opened an immense field of rich produce to the seafaring trade. A sailing vessel finally, called the *Nordlicht*, Captain Schwanenberg, which had been built in the Jenissei river, left the entrance of that river on the 21st of August, and passing the Karian Sea without meeting any obstacles, safely arrived at Vardoe (Norway) on the 16th Sept. She brings a small cargo of Siberian produce, especially graphite. The steamer *Thames*, under command of Capt. Wiggins, after staying all the winter in the Jenissei river, when returning to Europe during the summer, had the misfortune to get ashore at the entrance and could not be brought off again, notwithstanding all the cargo being thrown overboard, amongst it all the valuable collections of the English naturalist, Mr. Seabohn, who intended to return to Europe in this steamer.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

Business in our Produce Markets has shown considerable activity during the past week, and transactions both on the spot and for future delivery have been of pretty good extent. The raising of the rates of discount at London and Berlin has had no visible influence here.

COFFEE.—Sales have been large, and the arrivals of Rio and Santos Coffee of the new crop, which is of very good quality, have found ready buyers. The stock declared on the 29th of last month amounted to only 24½ million lbs., thus showing a decrease of 10 million lbs. during the month of September, while only ca. 6 million lbs. have come to hand during the same period. The market therefore closes with a firm tendency. Quotations—Java quality m.1.0 to 1.50 per lb.

SUGAR.—No sales of first-hand parcels are reported. Quotations are:—Manilla brown, clayed m.23 to 25½; do. unclayed, m.18½ to 20; Mauritius, brown, m.18 to 24; do. yellow, m.26 to 28; Batavia, white, m.31 to 32½; do. yellow and grey, m.27 to 29; do. brown, m.18½ to 24½; Siam, Benares and China, white, m.29 to 31; Zanzibar, brown and yellow, m.21 to 30; China, brown and yellow, m.19 to 26, per 100 lbs.

RICE.—Transactions in dressed quality have been of limited extent, but the market is rather firm. Fine Java table Rice has been in more demand at current quotations. Of raw quality no sales are reported.

TEA is quiet, and there have been no sales of importance. Cotton is in good demand at rising quotations. Transactions have only been made in American provenience.

SPICES.—Nutmegs m.2.75 to 3.20 per lb.; Mace, m.2.20 to 2.30; Cloves are in better demand, Zanzibar, m.138 to 139; Pepper unchanged, Singapore quality at m.37 to 37½, Batavia and Penang, m. 34½ to 35, White, m.64 to 72.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

There has been little fluctuation in speculative Stocks during the past week. The interest of operators on the Bourse has been centered

in the new Hungarian Loan. Quotations have remained unchanged, but the market closes with a rather feeble tendency. Latest quotations are:—

	Money.	Account.
Imperial Loan	95½	96
Hamburg Railway Loan of 1868	—	101½
Hamburg Loan of 1870	—	105
Do. do. 1875	—	95½
Hamburg Premium Loan of 1846	—	—
Hamburg Premium Loan of 1866	116	116½
Coeln Minden Railway	91½	92½
Norddeutsche Bank	135½	135½
Vereinsbank	—	122½
International Bank	—	84½
Commerce and Discount Bank	103½	103½
Do. do. 2nd issue (40 p.c.)	101½	—
Anglo-Deutsche Bank	31½	31½
Hamburg American Packet Company	54½	54½
Deutsche Dampfschiffs Rhederei	—	51½
Deutsche Transatlantic Company	—	12½

SHIPPING.

Business on the river-side of late has been fairly active, and as a good many arrivals have taken place our harbour presents a satisfactory show of Transatlantic vessels. Departures have been impeded by a gale from the northward, which caused several casualties at the mouths of the Weser and Elbe rivers, happily without in any case a fatal result. Of arrivals from the Far East I have to report the Galatea, s.s., Boehne, from China; Jules Dufaire, Camille, from Sourabaya; Bodilo, Hacke, from Tonga-Tabu, and Alardus, Voss, from Rangoon. The departures have been the Feronia, s.s., Schultz, for Shanghai; Fortuna, Strohsahl, for Rangoon, and Fidelio, Bohsen, for Hong Kong. At Bremen there have arrived:—Aberfoyle, Tasway, from Moulmein; Viola, Roe, from Bombay. The departures are the Bremen, Furst, Bismark, Kellerr, for East India. On the berth are:—A. H. Wille, Heaveker, for Rangoon; Dione, Brandt, for Penang and Singapore; Indra, Wilder, for same destination; Pandur, Jessen, for Manila (a new vessel); Civiale, Nissen, for Bangkok; Oscar, Windhorst, for Hong Kong; Anna Bertha, Krause, for same direction; Bonito, Weenbergh, for Chetuh, and August, Rus, for Japan. Freighters appear to be recovering a little, but owing to the great surplus of disengaged tonnage are still far from being satisfactory.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, OCT. 10.

We are still anxiously expecting the solution of the Ministerial crisis. It is by no means certain what will happen. The Liberal papers, or most of them, are demonstrating the necessity for a Liberal Government; but there are some organs of the same political colour which think it unfair, that the Cabinet should have been condemned by *la mort sans phrase*. According to their opinion, either a vote of want of confidence ought to have been pronounced by a large and powerful majority, or the Opposition should have been obliged to wait for the result of the debates upon the Lower Class Education Bill. The question now is whether the King will accept the resignation of the Ministers. Many influential politicians are of opinion that the King will prefer a dissolution of the Second Chamber, although there is every probability that the same members would be re-elected. It seems very easy to overthrow a Cabinet, but it is enormously difficult to find a Ministry which can command a majority for the Bills which are to be brought forward, and I believe that the Liberals would stumble over the same block, which has been thrown in the path of the Conservatives; in other words, that it will be impossible for them to reorganise the Education question in such a way as to please the majority of the nation. This, indeed, would be a most difficult task, and therefore it would have been preferable that the Bill of Mr. Heemskerk should have been discussed, the more because he stated that he wished for co-operation between political parties upon this non-political question. The Liberals were of another opinion, and caused a crisis. It may be that Mr. Heemskerk is somewhat reluctant to apply such a radical measure as a dissolution of Parliament. A rumour is current that the King intends to marry again, and that the Ministers opposed this intention; that the Premier refused to ennobel Mademoiselle d'Ambre, and that this caused discord between the King and the Cabinet, so that Mr. Heemskerk was very willing to resign. I need not add that I cannot guarantee the entire truth of these *ouïs*, but it seems to be the fact that the King, after having tried in vain to have Mademoiselle ennobled by Marshal Macmahon, succeeded in having this done by the Luxemburg Cabinet. Rumours are in circulation that the Prince of Orange intends to marry a German princess, but this tale has been so many times told that it is now generally disbelieved. The Paris paper, *Le Français*, announces that the King intends to pass the winter in Paris. This can hardly be so, as his Majesty purchased some days ago a beautiful seat near Rysswyk, from Messrs. D. De Boer and Zoon, for an amount of f.85,000. This chateau is now being fitted up in a most lavish manner, and will be, it is thought, the Royal residency for some months. It has created much astonishment that during the last few weeks we have had a shower of decorations. Mr. Van Lansberge has had conferred upon him the Grand Cross of the Order of the Netherlands Lion, which he well deserved for his services at the Conference at Brussels in 1874, and still more by his ability displayed as Governor-General of Netherlands-India.

Mr. Goeman Borgesius, editor of the Liberal paper *Het Vaderland*, has been selected as candidate for the election, which will take place at Winschoten, to fill up the seat left vacant by the appointment of Dr. Jouchblot as Professor at the Academy of Leyden. There is little doubt of his being returned.

I regret that I have to note the death of Mr. Ruydenaers, our Consul at Alexandria.

Mr. J. R. Kleyn has had conferred upon him the Christus Order by the King of Portugal. This gentleman resides at Batavia.

The Bourse has remained very quiet, and quotations have undergone but very trifling alterations. The rate of discount is somewhat higher, 3½ per cent. being paid.

In our commercial circles an address has been circulated, to be forwarded to the Minister of the Colonial Department, in order to protest against the selling of Java coffee once a month during ten months in the year. This system is judged to be hurtful, because Java coffee is not nearly of so excellent a quality as it was formerly; the Brazils and the English Indies producing sorts which compete with even superior Java quality. The petitioners wish that supplies should be sold as they arrive.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

Trade continues dull, and transactions have been very trifling in extent.

COFFEE.—The market is very quiet, and trade has been most limited. Only some parcels of private import have changed hands.

TEA very quiet; but prices are well maintained.

SUGAR.—Owing to absence of offers trade looks dull. The stock is exhausted, and no floating cargoes are offered in the market. About 2,000 mats have changed hands at October value.

TOBACCO (Java).—The trade is busy inspecting the lots (21,815 bales) to be offered in the latter part of this month. The stock includes 27,412 bales Java, 4,160 bales Sumatra, 3,375 bales Manila, 3,000 bales E.I.

COTTON is very firm; a good business has been done in this article at advancing prices. A special demand has prevailed for American sorts.

SPICES.—Nutmegs and Mace have enjoyed a good demand. Cloves are somewhat duller, but the transactions have been of some importance.

PEPPER is very firm, the 2,034 bags ex Noach IV. were not sold, the biddings being insufficient.

RICE.—Uncleaned sorts are rather dull, but a good demand has prevailed for cleaned.

INDIGO is very quiet. The last auctions have given a satisfactory result. The trade, however, is now fully provided. About 150 chests have changed hands.

HIDES dull. In the course of this month large parcels will be brought under the hammer.

TIN has met with more demand, and some lots of Banca were sold at f.41.50, and Billiton at f.39 to f.39½.

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

The Statistical Returns of the imports into and exports from the United Kingdom in the month of September have been issued. The total declared value of the imports in the month was £28,234,769, being 8 per cent. less than in the corresponding month in 1876, and 8½ per cent. less than in September, 1875. For the first nine months of the year the total is £292,528,403, or 3½ per cent. more than in the same period in 1876, and nearly 4 per cent. more than in the first three-quarters of the previous year. The value of the British exports in the month was £17,095,426, being 3½ per cent. less than in September, 1876, and 13½ below the total in the same month in 1875. For the nine months this year the aggregate was £147,663,519, or 2½ per cent. below last year, but 12½ per cent. below 1875 during the same period. The other principal decreases for the month in Imports are in cotton and flax. The principal increases are in iron ore, silk, both raw and manufactured, sugar, both refined and unrefined, and wood and timber. The principal decreases of the month as regards exports were in coal, coke, &c., copper, cordage, iron and steel, silk manufactures, woollen and worsted yarn and manufactures. The principal increases were in cotton and linen manufactures.

The total of gold and silver imports during September amounted to £4,321,744, against £4,204,367 in 1876, and £1,790,203 in 1875. For the nine months the imports were £28,882,000, against £28,524,663 in the like period of 1876, and £26,457,096 in 1875. The exports of gold and silver in the month of September were £3,436,282, against £2,853,665 in the corresponding period of 1876, and £1,561,953 in 1875. In the nine months just expired the exports were £31,353,785, against £16,155,515 in the like period of 1876, and £16,795,226 in 1875. In September, 1875, the imports exceeded the exports by £228,240, in 1876 by £1,350,712, and in 1877 by £895,162. In the nine months of 1875 the imports exceeded the exports by £9,661,870, and 1876 by £12,369,148, whilst in 1877 the exports exceeded the imports by £2,471,785.

The following is an extract from these Returns of the figures which refer to our export trade with China and the Far East:—

COTTON YARN.

To	For the Month ended 30th Sept.		
	1875.	1876.	1877.
China and Hong Kong	lbs. 1,588,700	624,500	1,695,200
Japan	1,552,000	1,000,500	526,700
Straits Settlements	231,100	173,100	307,700
Ceylon	5,000	7,000	16,100
To	For the Nine Months ended 30th Sept.		
	1875.	1876.	1877.
China and Hong Kong	lbs. 11,192,700	8,389,600	15,388,600
Japan	11,361,700	10,784,900	9,169,600
Straits Settlements	1,530,300	1,299,100	1,387,400
Ceylon	106,000	144,100	124,600

COTTON MANUFACTURES.

To	For the Month ended 30th Sept.	1875.	1876.	1877.
China and Hong Kong yds.	43,231,300	31,422,200	30,273,100	
Japan	6,632,900	3,043,800	1,498,000	
Philippine Islands	2,901,600	4,213,900	3,619,700	
Java	3,615,500	6,566,800	4,794,200	
Straits Settlements	7,530,600	7,081,700	7,830,300	
Ceylon	2,521,900	2,735,400	3,776,400	
China and Hong Kong yds.	313,411,500	326,778,000	314,594,400	
Japan	31,905,400	27,093,200	19,877,100	
Philippine Islands	23,585,800	21,765,600	43,111,700	
Java	45,098,100	53,883,100	69,160,100	
Straits Settlements	64,398,900	76,703,200	85,064,700	
Ceylon	23,949,000	25,309,800	23,173,100	

WORSTED STUFFS.

To	For the Month ended 30th Sept.	1875.	1876.	1877.
China and Hong Kong yds.	1,425,100	508,500	1,496,200	
Japan	1,045,500	230,700	265,600	
China and Hong Kong yds.	11,775,100	8,756,000	13,459,900	
Japan	7,386,800	2,395,900	3,213,000	

WOOLLEN CLOTHS.

To	For the Month ended 30th Sept.	1875.	1876.	1877.
China and Hong Kong yds.	186,400	196,700	243,100	
Japan	39,800	13,900	97,100	
China and Hong Kong yds.	1,321,600	1,818,200	1,723,900	
Japan	212,700	148,000	583,800	
For the month	tons 788	597	978	
For the nine months	7,839	6,999	11,796	

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.		Paid.	Closing Prices.
10	JOINT-STOCK BANKS.	All	10 1/2 to 11 1/2
25	Bank of Egypt	All	26 to 28
20	Chartered of India, Aust., and China	All	22 1/2 to 23 1/2
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	27 1/2 to 28 1/2
20	City	10	1 1/2 to 1 1/2
100	Colonial	30	59 to 61
500fr.	Comptoir D'Economie de Paris	All	615 fr.
229 1/2	Hong Kong and Shanghai	All	33 to 35
50	Imperial	15	16 1/2 to 17 1/2
50	London and County	20	62 1/2 to 63 1/2
50	London Joint-Stock	15	48 to 49
100	London and Westminster	20	63 to 64
25	Oriental	All	45 to 46
50	Union of London	15	41 to 42
10	TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.	All	7 1/2 to 8
10	Eastern Extension Australia and China	All	7 1/2 to 8
10	Great Northern	All	7 1/2 to 7 1/2
25	Indo-European	All	19 1/2 to 20 1/2
10	Mediterranean Extension	All	2 1/2 to 3
10	Telegraph Construction Company	All	26 1/2 to 27 1/2
20	India-rub., Gutta-perc., & Teleg. Works	All	23 to 24
8	Reuter's	All	9 to 10
100	INSURANCE COMPANIES.	11	26 to 27
20	Alliance Marine	4	15 to 16 1/2
50	British and Foreign Marine	19 1/2	19 1/2 to 20 1/2
50	Commercial Union	4	2 1/2 to 3 1/2
100	Globe Marine	50	99 to 100
20	Indemnity Marine	2	1 1/2 to 1 1/2 pm.
10	London and Provincial Marine	2	1 1/2 to 1 1/2 pm.
50	North British and Mercantile	61	4 1/2 to 4 1/2
25	Ocean Marine	5	6 1/2 to 7 1/2
20	Thames and Mersey	2	5 1/2 to 6 1/2 pm.
50	Union Marine, Liverpool	5	7 1/2 to 7 1/2
50	Universal Marine	5	9 1/2 to 10
30	TEA COMPANIES.	20	72 to 75
20	British Indian	All	61 to 62 1/2
20	Darjeeling	All	21 to 22
20	Eastern Assam	All	44 to 45 1/2
20	Forehand	All	60 to 65
10	Leibong	All	12 to 13
10	Upper Assam	All	54 to 5
20	MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.	10	10 1/2 to 9 1/2 dis
20	Do.	5	11 to 8 dis.
50	Colonial	20	18 to 20
10	Hong Kong and China Gas	All	24 to 24 1/2
10	International Finance	5	9 1/2 to 10
25	National Discount	5	605 fr.
500fr.	Messageries Maritimes of France	All	38 to 40
50	P. and O. Steam	All	9 to 7 1/2
100	Royal Mail Steam	60	50 to 55
400fr.	Suez Canal	—	68 1/2 fr.
250	Japan Loan, 9 per cent.	All	110 to 112
250	Do. 7 per cent.	All	102 to 104
100	Chinese Imperial Loan of 1874, 8 per cent.	All	102 to 104

BULLION QUOTATIONS.

Bar Gold	77s. 9 1/2 d.	per oz.
United States Gold Coin	76s. 5 d. to 76s. 6 d.	per oz.
German Gold Coin	76s. 3 1/2 d.	per oz.
Bar Silver, Fine	48s. 6 1/2 d.	per oz.
Bar Silver contg. 5 grs. Gold	48s. 7 1/2 d.	do.
Mexican Dollars	48s. 6 d.	per oz.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

MANCHESTER GOODS.

A very strong and firm tone has pervaded the market, in sympathy with the continued large sales of Cotton at daily advancing prices. The improved feeling has failed, however, to stimulate the demand for goods, and the extreme rates asked still keep the transactions within narrow limits. Yarns are more easily saleable at the enhanced values, and some resales have been effected at fully 1/2d. above the lowest point.

QUOTATIONS.

Grey Shirtings	...	...	38 1/2 in.	...	7 1/2 lb.	...	6 24	to 7 54
Do. do.	...	...	...	...	8 1/2 lb.	...	6 24	to 8 84
Do. do.	...	...	44 1/2 in.	...	7 1/2 lb.	...	6 24	to 7 84
Do. do.	...	...	...	...	8 1/2 lb.	...	6 10	to 8 7
Do. do.	...	...	50 in.	...	7 9/16 lb.	...	7 84	to 9 74
Do. do.	...	...	53 in.	...	10 1/8 lb.	...	9 44	to 10 74
Grey T-Cloths	...	...	32 in.	...	6 1/8 lb.	...	4 54	to 5 84
Do. do.	...	...	...	...	7 1/2 lb.	...	5 3	to 6 9-16
Do. do. (Mexicans)	...	...	...	...	8 1/2 lb.	...	5 3	to 6 9-16
Do. do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 3 13-16	to 7 9 13-16
Metropolitan	...	...	39 in.	...	21 1/8 lb.	...	9 2 11-16	to 9 3-16
Grey Jacquets	...	...	39 in.	...	21 1/8 lb.	...	9 2 17-32	to 9 3 17-32
Grey Drills	...	...	30 in.	...	14 1/8 lb.	...	8 104	to 10 04
Grey Jeans	...	...	30 in.	...	8 1/2 lb.	...	6 84	to 8 74
White Spot Shirtings	...	...	36 in.	...	...	...	9 74	...
Brocade	...	...	36 in.	...	...	...	9 104	...
Danubius	...	...	36 in.	...	...	...	15 84	...
Water Twist (China quality)	...	...	16-24	...	...	...	0 94	to 0 104
Do. do. do. do.	...	...	28-32	...	...	...	0 104	to 0 114
Do. do. (Mock)	...	...	28-32	...	...	...	0 114	to 1 0